79-1945

[redacted]

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

Willimantic, Conn.,
June 4, 1945

Editor, Willimantic Chronicle:—

My letter this week deals with "Social Distinctions, Marriage Customs, Funeral Services and Negro Slavery."

Among the early settlers of Connecticut, a large proportion of those known as "planters" were descended from the landed gentry of England. In many cases they traced their ancestry in a noble line from the time of William the Conqueror, and it is not strange that pride of birth continued to exert a peculiar influence in the social life and customs of the colony.

Titles were used sparingly and with careful discrimination. Only those who had possessed landed estates in England, the younger sons of nobility and the sons of baronets and knights, were addressed in writing with the title of "Esquire." The most common title of honor was "Master" or "Mr." Among those who received this mark of distinction were clergymen, planters of good families and those sufficiently well-born who had enjoyed the advantages of a liberal education. This appellation was seldom bestowed upon young men of whatever rank. "Sir" was a title employed in a limited sense to designate young gentlemen who were students in college. The sons of men like Governor Winthrop or Governor Treat, when at home during their vacations, would be greeted by old companions as Sir Winthrop or Sir Treat.

Those who, by thrift and force of character won a worthy position in the community, were called "Goodman" and "Goodwife." Military titles were in high favor, and recognized with becoming deference. Prior to 1654 the highest military officer in the colony was captain, and John Mason of Pequot fame was the only one who bore this title. When in after years he visited the militia of the different towns, bearing the insignia of his rank as major, he was gazed at by the boys and girls of the settlement with eyes of wide wonder, as a man to be revenced, but not approached. "Ecclesiastical titles were highly esteemed, but the clerical prefix of "Reverend" was not employed in early colonial times. Ministers were recognized as "Mr.," "Pastor," "Teacher" or "Elder."

The legal and medical profession had but scant recognition in these early days. The doctor picked up what little knowledge he possessed from personal association and study with an older practitioner. His success depended upon his natural skill and tact in dealing with people, and a wise sympathy in the suggestions and notions of the good housewives, who felt that the art of healing was a part of their domestic duties.

The lawyers fared hard. No mention is made of them in the public records of the times, except in the statute which, having mentioned rioters, scolds, drunkards and other evil doers, provides that "common barrators, which frequently move, stir up, and maintain suits of law in court, or quarrels and parts in the country, shall give security for their behavior, or be sent to the common gaol." It was not until late in the eighteenth century that Connecticut lawyers depended upon their profession alone for a living. During Governor Talcott's administration, the attention of the assembly was called to the fact "that many persons had taken upon them to be attorneys at the bar, so that quarrels and lawsuits were multiplied, and the king's good subjects disturbed." It was enacted that there should be "allowed in the colony, eleven attorneys and no more; namely, three in Hartford county and two in each of the others." This law was, however, soon repealed.

Long before the Revolution, society had fallen into certain lines and orders that sharply defined personal influence and position. This order followed the gradations of gentlemen, yeomen, merchants, mechanics and servants. The position of yeoman was every way honorable. Some of them bore the title of master, and were elected to fill important positions of trust. The educated class, however, formed the real aristocracy of society; and it was not until after the Revolution that their commanding influence began to wane.

At the head of this aristocracy stood the clergy. While a few

Slavery

men of wealth, birth, and personal strength of character, held commanding positions, and officers who had gained military renown were highly esteemed, there was no class of men who occupied as unique and powerful a vantage-ground of influence as the ministry.

"The ministers of the Puritan emigration," says a recent historian, "were men of birth, education and breeding. Many of them had been driven from the pulpits of the English church, and all possessed the sternest courage and deepest convictions. They were, without exception, leaders in every way among the people; formed the strongest class in the community, and were bold, vigorous, intolerant, able men, who set their mark indelibly upon the early institutions of New England. In accordance with their views, the laws were framed; by their opinions, much of the public policy was directed; for them the college was founded, and they alone were thought worthy of the highest education. To them the people looked up with a voluntary reverance, and with profound awe; while from the pulpits, they wielded an autohrity, and exercised a power, which was simply overwhelming." (Lodge).

The Lord's day began at sunset on Saturday. At this moment all unnecessary work ceased, and the time was passed with strict religious observance until sunset of the following day. Sunday evening was given to recreation and social conversation and visiting This was the time when young men were in the habit of visiting the Puritan maidens without fear that parents or guardians would be displeased, if they were worthy. The marriages that resulted from these visits wehe solemnized by a magistrate. If a clergyman officiated, he was obligized to secure a special permit.

Weddings in early Colonial days were usually celebrated quietly at the home of the bride. With the increase of wealth, there was a marked change in this respect. Not only were the banns proclaimed in the church, but a general invitation was given from the pulpit to attend the ceremony. Friends and neighbors were entertained with lavish hospitality at the bride's house. On the wedding day, muskets were fired; and those who attended the ceremony marched in procession to the bride's home. The wedding feasts lasted sometimes for two or three days. At a grand wedding in New London, on the day after the marriage, ninety-two ladies and gentlemen, it is said, proceeded to dance ninety-two jigs, fifty-two contra-dances, forty-five minuets and seventeen hornpipes. Marriages were usually consummated at a very early period of life, many girls becoming wives at sixteen and seventeen.

The early settlers made the final offices of respect to the dead as simple as possible. This custom changed in time and, while the religious rites were brief, the obsequies were performed with pomp and state. The grave was dug by friends, and after the service, was also filled by their hands. Leading men of the community were selected as pall-bearers; and besides a general distributnon of scarfs, gloves and rings, a feast of baked meats and drink was provided. This extravagance was carried so far that it was the custom in some of the towns to supply scarfs and gloves for the burial of a pauper.

It seems strange to think of Connecticut as a slave-holding state, but such was the case in Colonial times. There are men still living who met in their childhood with persons who had seen a cargo of slaves placed in the old jail at Middletown and afterwards sold at auction. At the time of the Revolution, several prominent citizens in this thriving village of about one hundred families were sea captains engaged in the slave trade. This business was very profitable for many years. Vessels going out to the West Indies carried horses, hoops, grain and other articles, and on the return trips brought cargoes of Guinea negroes. They seem to have been treated kindly as a rule; and the characteristics that mark the race today were prominent then.

Captive Indians, as well as negroes, were held for service in families; and the Colonial authorities enjoined a strict care in the training and religious instructions of those bond servants. Soon after the Revolution, steps were taken to bring about a gradual emancipation of slaves on the ground that it was not profitable to keep them. The conscience of the people who not troubled in those days over the sin of slavery.

My next letter will be on "The Religious Life of the People; Sabbath Observance; Social Pleasures."

W. P. S. KEATING, M. D.

SLAVE WRONGLY CONVICTED FOR MURDER DIED AT AGE OF 100 YEARS

PALESTINE, Texas — Steve Jones, white-haired Palestine Negro who was sold on the slavery block here at least three times and later served 25 years in the state penitentiary for a crime he did not commit, is dead.

Jones, whose age was somewhere near 100 years, died suddenly here in his cabin.

Anderson county court records show that the aged Negro was once tried for the murder of a white man and sentenced to life in prison. Twenty-five years after the conviction, a death-bed confession by a white man cleared him and he was pardoned by Gov. Tom Campbell.

As a young slave, he was sold at auction on the Anderson County Courthouse lawn in civil war days. Once he was owned by John H. Reagan, first Railroad Commissioner of Texas, who operated a plantation west of Palestine.

Negro Claims To Be 114; No Worries

Willie Brown Ward, an alert, nimble, little old negro who lives at 400 Washington street, claims he has just celebrated his 114th birthday.

Born Dec. 26, 1831, according to his claim, on land where Georgia's capitol now stands, Willie says that during his youth he was a slave of the state's wartime governor of the sixties, Joe E. Brown.

The old negro recalls he was once sold to a plantation owner in Mississippi and was living there when a flood swept the plantation, killing Willie's wife and three of his children. Grieved over his loss, Willie then set out to walk back to his white folks in Georgia and made the most of the way on foot.

Ward says he well remembers Sherman's march through Georgia and will tell you that Union troops evicted him from a house located where Atlanta's city hall is now situated.

A onetime messenger boy, Willie is still active and makes a living by doing odd jobs. He says he has 17 children who live through Ward attributes his long life to out Georgia, but he can't remember the fact that, "Ah nevah worries ber the names and ages of all of about anything."

He confidently expects to live them.

Never ill that he can remember, to be at least 120.

Willie says he never takes any "Ah trusts in de Lawd," Willie medicine. He confesses to a liking says, "and Ah believe he's gwine for a smoke now and then and an occasional chew of tobacco, and he likes to take a "little dram" once in awhile. He enjoys reading newspapers.

Kentucky Colonels to Erect Marker Over Simple Grave of 'Old Black Joe'

Courier-Journal 6-14-45

Louisville, Ky.

Burial Place Of Slaves Found At Bardstown

By MARION PORTER.

Old Black Joe, immortalized in Stephen Collins Foster's song, soon will have a monument on his final resting place, a simple rugged stone in keeping with his life and times.

On July 4, when the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels conducts the 150th anniversary observance of the building of Old Kentucky Home at Bardstown, simultaneously commemorating the birth date of Stephen Collins Foster, a feature of the program will be the rehabilitation of the slaves' graves.

Nobody will quarrel with the arbitrary decision of a group of Bardstown's leading citizens to designate the ancient grave opened yesterday at Old Kentucky Home as that of Old Black Joe. It could have been that of Uncle Ned or Aunt Becky, or any of the scores of slaves and retainers that lived at the famous Judge John Rowan home at Federal Hill. But it just seemed fitting to call it Old Black Joe's grave. The important thing was that once and for all the site of the cemetery for the slaves has been determined. 6-19-45

Uneasy Moment Experienced.

Mrs. Catherine Barnes Tucker, curator of Old Kentucky Home, who as a little girl played on the estate when it was occupied by its last mistress, Mrs. Madge Rowan Frost, had some uneasy moments after she had pointed out the grove of trees on the golf course as the burial ground of the slaves to Mrs. Anna Friedman, secretary of the Colonels, and Lee S. Read, Louisville realtor, who had helped rehabilitate the Rowan family cemetery several years ago. What if it were not the authentic burial ground? However, Read had had the same information from Rowan relatives, and old-timers in Bardstown agreed.

"But we just had to make it authentic," explained Bardstown's Mayor J. F. Conway, who is proud of Bardstown's historic spots. Under the direction of the Fourth of July committee the one grave was completely unearthed and two others sufficiently investigated to determine the location of the cemetery. After the general plan was discovered, small stones, almost completely covered, were found, all facing east and all apparently marking a grave.

Joe's Money Not Found.

It was evident from wood fragments that Old Black Joe was buried in a black walnut casket with handmade metal handles. A sea shell and a tiny bell appeared to be a part of the embellishments. Mrs. Tucker, in a final appeal for "authenticity," said it likely wasn't Old Black Joe's grave, as he had a can of money buried with him. The money wasn't found. 6-19-45

Judge J. M. Carothers said that "my cook's father" used to be described as Old Black Joe's grandson. Visitors at Old Kentucky Home believed the story and their children often posed for pictures with the "grandson." The Negro, on the strength of his relationship and picturesqueness, received scores of Christmas presents and birthday remembrances. "I guess he had a dozen harmonicas," said Judge Carothers.

Judge Carothers, as president of the Chamber of Commerce, and Paul York, secretary, promised their organization would set up a rail fence around the rehabilitated cemetery. The fence won't set so well with the golfers, it was gleaned from the conversation, because the cemetery adjoins the fairway of the Old Kentucky Home golf course.

Other Bardstown committee members present when the final spadeful was dug and the skeleton exposed were B. B. Jewell, George Allen Barnes, O. E. Grigsby, W. G. A. Sympson, L. P. Hubbard and T. W. Spalding.

Among the onlookers were Cpl. Jouett Wood, son of Mrs. Tucker—who was married in Old Kentucky Home a few weeks ago—and Mrs. Wood; Mrs. Irvin Shehan, of Bardstown; Mrs. Josephine Mitchell, who has charge of the Stephen Collins Foster Hotel; T/4 Lawrence Haslett, Honolulu, who wears an "Official U. S. Army Photographer" insignia, and was visiting Old Kentucky Home with his cousin Miss Ruth Haslett, Cavalier Apartments.

C.-J. Photo.

AMONG THE GROUP that witnessed the digging of the last spadeful to determine the site of the slave cemetery at Old Kentucky Home, were, from left, Mrs. Catherine Barnes Tucker, Judge J. M. Carothers, Mrs. Anna Friedman, Lee S. Read, and Mayor J. F. Conway, Bardstown.

ROBERT QUILLEN

Atlanta Ga.

Dangerous Prejudices

12-12-45

There was no reason for the Civil War. There was no conflict of interests, nor envy of fear or vengefulness to justify such a slaughter of young men and such a waste of treasure. It was a made war.

Historians say it was caused by the "hotheads" of the north and south. It would be more accurate to say it was a war between Massachusetts and South Carolina in which the other states took sides.

To Massachusetts, slavery was a moral issue. The New England conscience was horrified by human bondage and the fact that one man prospered by the unpaid labor of another. The "hotheads" read stories about helpless slaves beaten by cruel masters and assumed that all slaves were so abused. (It didn't occur to them that a sane man wouldn't make a practice of crippling $1,000 properties.) They believed all southerners cruel, unjust and arrogant and considered it their duty to reform them with a club.

To South Carolina, slavery was an economic issue. Virginians were discovering that it didn't pay, but it was still profitable in the lower part of South Carolina, as in the Delta region, and a "hothead" whose capital was invested in slaves was apt to lose his temper when some Yankee suggested reforms that would make him a pauper. He answered in print and otherwise: "Your ship owners made fortunes bringing slaves from Africa. You oppose slavery only because it wouldn't pay in your section. Our slaves fare better and work shorter hours than the factory workers you hire."

When men in different sections begin to exchange such remarks, and worse ones, they quit reasoning and are guided only by their passions. 12-18-45

Now again we are divided into conflicting groups with dissimilar interests, and again the demagogues make use of prejudice, self-righteousness, intolerance, greed and smoldering class hatred to overcome reason and arouse passion.

There is now no conflict that could not be settled by reasonable men of good will. We are being tricked and crippled by Quislings who value personal power above the welfare of the nation.

Reaches Age of 98

[TRIBUNE Photo]

Chicago Tribune

Dr. James H. Garnett, once a slave, who celebrated 98th birthday in Gary.

Chicago Ill.

Dr. James H. Garnett, Negro who rose from the position of a Georgia slave to become president of five Negro colleges, celebrated his 98th birthday with friends and relatives Friday in his home at 2300 Adams st., Gary, Ind.

Garnett fled from a plantation to join the Union forces in the Civil war and marched back to Georgia with Gen. Sherman's army. He later became the first Negro to graduate from Oberlin college in Ohio. He was the founder and first president of the American Baptist Theological seminary, Nashville, Tenn. 6-17-45

Since his retirement six years ago, Garnett has devoted most of his time to his library. He lives with his daughter, Mrs. Roscoe Guy, a teacher in Roosevelt High school, Gary.

79-1945

ROBERT QUILLEN

Inhumanity of Noah's Curse

7-30-45

Atlanta Constitution

According to Hebrew history, there was a man named Noah who was divinely prompted to build a great boat which rode out a universal flood, thus saving himself and his family and specimens of all animals, while all other creatures drowned.

If Noah and his family were the only people worth saving, the rest of mankind must have been an ornery lot, for Noah apparently made a practice of getting drunk.

One hot day while he was sleeping it off, he lay naked in his tent and his youngest son Ham saw him and told his two older brothers about it.

These two, named Shem and Jepheth, took a garment on their shoulders and walked backward into the tent and covered the old man to save him further humiliation.

When Noah woke up with a hangover and learned what Ham had done, he put a curse on the boy. He did not, as commonly believed, curse Ham himself—which would have seemed the fair thing, if cursing had to be done. Instead, he put the curse on Ham's son, Canaan, saying: "Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren."

Of course the curse would not have been effective without supernatural aid, and there is no record that it worked. 7-30-45

But many generations of good Christian people, feeling the need of justifying slavery, believed Noah's curse, the beginning of the Negro race. The curse, they said, applied to all of Ham's descendants until the end of time. His boy, Canaan, turned black, and his children were Negroes. That was the meaning of the words, "a servant of servants shall he be."

When man needs an alibi, he isn't too particular about the logic of it. And the good people who adopted the Ham theory didn't bother their heads with its implication. It implied that the Supreme Being performed a miracle to punish millions of innocent people yet unburn in order to make good the curse of an old drunk.

Ignorant people were not the only ones who used the Bible to justify slavery. Princeton-trained clergymen did it in the early days of the Civil War.

(Incidentally, slavery did not end with the Emancipation proclamation. It still exists in many parts of the world. Haile Selassie though supported by lovers of freedom, got much of his prewar revenue by selling his own people.)

Ex-Slave Dies In Kansas

Kansas City, Mo.

HUTCHINSON, Kas. — Martin Lacey, ex-slave and picturesque Hutchinson man died at 8 p.m. Sunday at Broadacres.

Lacey, long a familiar figure as he lounged on the fire escape steps at the rear of the Hutchinson State bank or on the north side of Beardslee's store, had been in failing health several months.

8-5-45

No one knew exactly how old Lacey was, and he wasn't sure of his own age. In conversation with William D. Hamilton, sign man who often befriended him, Lacey said he was about 16 when Abraham Lincoln freed the slaves. That would have made him at least 96 years old.

In the years following the Civil war, Lacey worked as a hod carrier in Hutchinson. He said he helped build many of the first brick and stone buildings in the south part of the town. He went from here to Missouri but returned and spent the past 25 years or more in Hutchinson.

Lacey's wants were few, his worries even fewer. As long as his chewing tobacco held out and the weather was nice he would sit by himself in the shade of a building and pass the time of day with passersby.

The Call

A number of years ago he became ill. Welfare workers made arrangements for Lacey to live at Broadacres. But that was too confining and he came back to town. However, he returned to Broadacres several months ago.

Lacey had no known relatives.

Services for Martin Lacey were held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday in the Volkland chapel with Rev. R. C. Tieuel, of the St. John C.M.E. church, conducting the services. Burial will be in Eastside cemetery.

Ex-Slave W[illegible] 110, Succumbs In Chicago

The New York Amsterdam News, New York, N.Y.

10-13-45

CHICAGO (ANP)—Mrs. Sylvia Brown, a 110-year old ex-slave, died here last week at the home of her youngest sister, Mrs. Hattie Wilson, 80, with whom she was visiting for the last two weeks.

Mrs. Brown, the oldest of 15 children, came here from Brookhaven, Miss., where she had lived all her life, part of it as a slave. She was employed in a mission as a house worker after she was freed.

Slavery

RALPH T. JONES

The Atlanta Constitution

Throughout History Life Has Been Cheap

Atlanta, Georgia

10-24-45

Indictment of the German war criminals reveals some of the most shocking statistics concerning the brutality of man to man and the mass slaughter of helpless humans. Racial minorities, hapless slaves of conquered peoples, were butchered with no more compunction, apparently, than would ordinarily be felt over the elimination of a plague of undesirable insects.

It is doubtful if ever in history so many innocent victims have been so ruthlessly slain in so short a time as the record shows against the Nazis.

It requires, however, but cursory knowledge of world history to know that there has never been a century, there is no portion of the world, where wholesale disregard of human life value has not been experienced. From the days of Khubla Khan to the days of Hitler, the story of mankind is a story of blood.

Dark Continent I have recently been reading some portions of the history of Africa, that area which equals in size the whole of Europe, the United States, India and China put together, and which has for generations been known as "The Dark Continent." Human life was held so cheaply there, large areas were depopulated.

The story of Africa is, in large degree, the story of the slave trade and the long fight to abolish it.

The earliest known record of an organized trade in African slaves comes down to us from the time of Egypt's period of greatness among the then known nations. Traders from ancient Egypt brought a stream of human beings out of the African interior by way of the Nile and across the Sahara, to be sold in their markets for human flesh.

Then came the Arab traders from the Persian Gulf who established trading settlements for receiving and shipping their wares. Even these slaves who survived the dread journey from the interior to the coast died, in large numbers, on the small sailing vessels into which they were packed with scarcely space to breathe, for the voyage across the Indian Ocean.

Then the West In ancient days, the flow of African slaves was chiefly to the east. In the early sixteenth century, however, the peoples of Europe had discovered this source of cheap slave labor and the flow had shifted westward. It was then the Portuguese started to ship African slaves across the Atlantic to the New World. The demand from American and West Indian plantations seemed inexhaustible.

David Livingstone, the greatest man in the whole story of African exploration and discovery, dedicated his life, for 20 years, to the liberation of East Africans from the slave trade.

He explored right to the heart of the trade, in the lake regions of North Central Africa. Near Lake Nyasa, Livingstone saw thousands of starving and homeless people fleeing in terror before the tribes on the warpath, who pursued them to sell as slaves to the Arabs. At that time 19,000 slaves from Nyasaland alone were being exported annually through the port of Zanzibar, and Livingstone calculated that for each slave thus exported, 10 died on the 1,000-mile march from the interior to the coast.

The story of how, gradually, international traffic in these pitiful human creatures was halted is too familiar for repetition here.

But export of these human cattle was only one phase of the slavery horror in Africa. At least as dark is the story of interior slavery, practiced by one tribe against another.

Constant War Many of the stronger tribes were constantly at war, preying on their weaker neighbors. In fact, almost everywhere in Africa a state of intertribal war was considered normal.

Tribe was constantly raiding tribe and captured prisoners were either sold to visiting Arab traders or kept as domestic slaves by the victors. Women and children were bought and sold like cattle. The death rate was so terrific large areas of the country were practically depopulated.

One of the most interesting angles to the final victory over slavery in Africa, however, is the unemotional, factual weapon which succeeded when everything else had failed. That was commercial profit!

The slave trade had boomed because it was profitable. The local chieftains were, at last, induced to abandon it when other trade with the outside world provided a source of livelihood more profitable, even, than the slave trade.

Canada Towns Recall 'Underground Railroad'

Chicago Defender—Chicago, Ill.
12-1-43

By ALBERT G. BARNETT
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

(Second of a Series)

WINDSOR, Ont.—The two towns in Canada most prejudiced against Negroes are North Regina in Alberta and Chatham, Ontario.

This is on authority of pioneer residents of the two communities. In North Regina and adjacent districts, blame for the ill-treatment of Negro residents is not charged against the native Canadians but against prejudiced Southern whites crossing the border to work on the Alcan Highway, whose Canadian terminus is Edmonton.

In Chatham the Negro population numbers about 400, many of whom are native-born, and who never cease to wonder why Chatham—which was a potent factor aiding fugitive slaves through its "Underground Railroad" — should now be so bitterly prejudiced against Negroes.

Here again, blame for the condition is placed squarely at the door of Southern whites who came to Chatham and surrounding districts to work in the tobacco industry. The fact remains that Negroes are barred from the city's hotels, cafes and other public places.

When colored visitors make the mistake of stopping off in Chatham with the expectation of getting hotel accommodations, they are told there are no vacancies and then given the names of reputable Negro residents where accommodations may be secured.

Chatham Historic City

Indicative of the important role played by Chatham in aiding slaves during the stirring days preceding the War Between the States, old residents say that the first of a series of meetings was held in Chatham that resulted in the raid on Harper's Ferry.

Present at the Chatham meeting, held in 1859, were John Brown, noted abolitionist and hero of Harper's Ferry; Frederick Douglass, famous orator and fearless champion of his people; George DeBaptiste, William Lambert, John Richards, Dr. J. Ferguson, William Webb and Ferdinand L. Barnett, grandfather of this writer, at whose home the meeting was held. Grandpere Barnett moved to Chicago nine years later, arriving there just three years before the Great Fire of '71. 12-1-43

This information was vouchsafed by the Rev. William J. Harrison of Windsor, Ont., assistant pastor of the British Methodist Episcopal church, 351 McDougall street, and brother of the late Richard B. Harrison, of "Green Pastures" fame. Pastor of the Windsor church is the Rev. F. O. Stewart.

Meet at John Brown's Home

The last meeting in Chatham of the abolitionists, prior to the Harper's Ferry raid, was held at the John Brown home, corner of King and Adelaide streets, where half the building still stands. The other half fell a victim of the surveyor's rod, when the Canadian Pacific Pacific Railroad was being routed through that district.

At nearby Dresden, just a few miles from Chatham, is another historic site—the burial ground where lie the remains of Josiah Henson, fugitive slave, whose life and character inspired Harriet Beecher Stowe to portray him as the "Uncle Tom" of her famous book.

Windsor and Chatham legend also tells how the experiences of Harriet Tubman, fugitive slave, in crossing on the ice of the Detroit river, to the Canadian side, immortalized her as the "Eliza" of Mrs. Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Among Chatham's pioneer residents are Mrs. Annie Lawrence, highly respected member of the community whose mother was also a Canadian citizen; the Lynn sisters and the Rev. and Mrs. L. A. P. Jones. 12-1-43

Windsor of Today

Windsor, with a present-day population of about 3,000, has five Negro postal employes, two physicians—Drs. H. D. Taylor and O. P. Chatter, and two dentists—Dr. William Kelly and Roy Perry.

In commemoration of the humane part played by Windsor in giving aid and succor to American slaves fleeing to Canada, an impressive tablet was erected in 1928, on the site of the Dominion Bank, Sandwich and Ouellette streets, atop which is emblazoned the legend: "HERE THE SLAVE FOUND FREEDOM. Before the U. S. Civil War of 1861-65, Windsor was the terminal of the Underground Railroad." 12-1-43

As a result of immigration and the slave-running of Civil War days, there are today three segments of Negro population in Canada—the native-born descendants of former slaves and the immigrants from foreign countries, notably the British West Indies and the United States.

No Mass Progress

In recent years, the record of progress of Canada's colored citizens is a record of individual achievement. as there has been no notable mass movement forward. Toronto, Winnipeg and Montreal furnish outstanding examples of individual achievement among Negroes, many of whom have grown wealthy.

One of the Dominion's most noted members of the medical profession is Dr. K. I. Melville of Montreal, now a member of the faculty at McGill university, Canada's greatest educational center which ranks on a par with Oxford of London, England. Dr. Melville is the first of his race to serve on the faculty of McGill and numbers among his friends and associates Montreal's leading citizens of both races.

DR. K. I. MELVILLE

Among Toronto's foremost residents are Nathan K. Redmon, Dr. Oscar A. Brewton, V. I. Petgrave, Atty. Spencer Pitt and Dr. J. Wyke and J. M. Charles, all specialists in their respective fields and leaders in the civic life of the community.

Former Chicagoan

Redmon, a former Chicagoan, has lived in Toronto 32 years, during which time he specialized in contract work and the hauling of building and construction material. He has seen residential sections of Toronto developed from dense forests to imposing, costly homesites and much of the hauling of material was done by his firm.

Redmon also held contracts for buildings on the University of Toronto campus and now has in service eleven 10-ton trucks, all specially built for heavy haulage. The father of five children, Redmon has retired ,and his sons and son-in-law have taken over the business with the interest and enthusiasm of youth. His wife, the former Goldie Bishop of Chicago, is secretary of the firm.

Leading Chiropodist

Dr. Brewton, also a former American, is concededly one of the most successful chiropodists in Toronto, has an all-white clientele, and is one of the city's leaders. A graduate of Tuskegee institute, class of 1908, he received his professional training at the Illinois College of Chiropody, class of 1924.

Sharing honors with the doctor, is his wife, Mrs. Leona M. Brewton, beauty specialist of 18 years' experience and owner of the Brewton Comfort Shoppe. The Brewtons are actively interested in community development, especially as pertains to youth, and each summer they personally finance and sponsor an outing and picnic for more than 200 children. The Brewtons live in their beautiful residence on exclusive Kilbarry road.

EX-SLAVE, 120, DIES; FARMHAND AT 116

New York Times
12-25-46

James Wilson, Oldest Man in U. S., Had Doctor's Care First Time Three Years Ago

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

VIDALIA, Ga., Dec. 24—The Rev. James (Uncle Jim) Walter Wilson, venerable Negro and the oldest citizen in the United States, died here Saturday night in the home of his son, Charles, at the age of 120.

Mr. Wilson was born in slavery on the Walden Plantation, his official census record showing May 15, 1825, as his birth date.

He worked as a farm hand until he was 100 years old, was ordained a Baptist minister after having attained that age, and added the serving of various Negro Baptist churches as pastor to his field work until he was 117 years old. He then came to Vidalia to reside with his son.

Mr. Wilson probably had worked more hours than any man in the Christian era, starting when 4 years old as a plantation hand. At thirteen hours a day for 111 years, his working hours totaled 527,000. He put in a forty-four-hour week straightening nails after he was 120 years old. N. Y. N. Y.

So far as known, the first time Uncle Jim was attended by a doctor was when he suffered a fall at the age of 117. His age was then discovered by the motion-picture industry, and for a day he was starred in a news-reel, in which he hoed cotton, mended fences and did other stunts that would be considered quite impossible for one of his age.

He read well and spoke fairly good English, free of Negro idioms. His favorite reading was the Bible, which he consulted daily. He was the author of a formula for longevity: "Live temperate and obey the laws of God."

Uncle Jim was probably one of the most photographed men in the State. Two grandsons have been serving in the armed forces overseas. His other survivors are his son and two other grandchildren, all of Vidalia.

MARY S. NEWCOMB, KIN OF ABOLITIONIST

Saw Her Father Aid Slaves to Escape Before Civil War by Underground—Dies at 94

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WHITNEY POINT, N. Y., April 16—Mrs. Mary Seymour Newcomb, whose first childhood memory was of Negro slaves hiding in her father's Whitney Point home, an important station on the underground railroad before the Civil War, died yesterday at a nursing home in Lisle, near here. Her age was 94.

Mrs. Newcomb was the mother of the concert pianist, Ethel Newcomb. Her father, John Seymour, was one of up-State New York's leading abolitionists. The activities of her father and his associates in thwarting the Compromise Act of 1850, which made everyone with knowledge of the flight of slaves from the South responsible for their capture, made such an impression on Mary Seymour that she never discussed them publicly until 1929.

The restriction of absolute secrecy was imposed on the 7-year-old girl in the summer of 1859 when she walked into the kitchen of her home, which is situated nearly fifteen miles north of Binghamton, and saw her father preparing breakfast for a frightened and exhausted runaway.

"Little girl," her father said, "never tell what you have seen this morning."

It wasn't until she was 77 years old that she told the story for the first time to a reporter.

The Seymour house was the first station stop for fleeing slaves in the up-State underground chain. The fugitives were guided from Whitney Point to Peterboro, in Madison County, where an associate of Seymour, Gerrit Smith, took over the responsibility of getting them to Canada.

The Seymour house still stands, and one of its points of interest to sightseers is the little secret attic where many slaves slept as they paused in their flight to freedom.

Besides her daughter, Ethel Newcomb, Mrs. Newcomb leaves three other daughters, Mrs. Charles Rogers, Mrs. Harry Clinton and Mrs. Roscoe Finch, all of Whitney Point.

DRESDEN, Ont.—"Uncle Tom's" grandson, Beecher Henson, rubbed a work-hardened hand over his chin Thursday, waggled a brown finger at interviewers who interrupted his work with a construction firm, and said:

"Would I like to buy Uncle Tom's home—course I'd like to buy it."

"Grandpa would like it that way," he said. "But I haven't the money."

With his words vanished any hope a member of the Henson family would finish his days in the home of the Rev. Josiah Henson, fabulous hero of the tale, "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

The house, now owned by William Chapple, has been offered for sale with the stipulation it be removed from the property where it has stood for nearly a century.

Grandfather Died in 1883

His grandson, Beecher, was named for Harriett Beecher Stowe, author of the famous book. Rev. Mr. Henson died in the house on May 5, 1883.

Beecher, who is the last Dresden survivor of "Uncle Tom," said his brother Tom, working in Cleveland, and he would like to buy the property if they had enough money.

Documents in Mr. Chapple's possession show that Rev. Mr. Henson, born in the United States, paid $500 for the house and 100 acres in 1851—23 years after he reached the Canadian terminus of the "underground railway" at Dresden. The house is believed to have remained in the Henson family until the early 1900's.

Floors Creak With Age

The eight-windowed, two-story house is in surprisingly good shape, although the stairs and worn pine floors creak with every step.

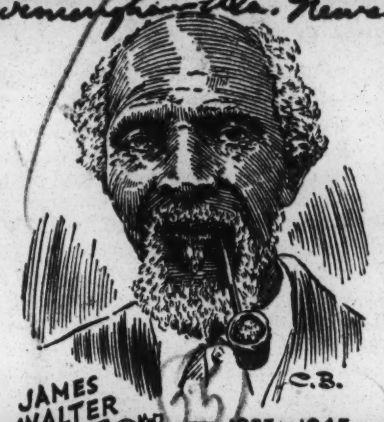
A half-mile down the road from the Chapple home, "Uncle Tom" rests in a rural graveyard which through the years has sprouted weeds.

But, if "Uncle Tom's" resting place has fallen into neglect, there is still beauty in the lines etched on the headstone of the one-time fugitive that few knew as the Rev. Josiah Henson, but millions cheered as "Uncle Tom":

"There is a land of pure delight
Where saints immortal reign;
Infinite day excludes the night
And pleasures banish pain."

THEIR LAST WORDS

By Saint Bonner



JAMES WALTER WILSON

1825–1945

HUMBLE AMERICAN NEGRO

His only claim to fame was that he was the oldest man in America, was never sick, didn't know the taste of medicine and died at the verified age of 120 years, 7 months and one week. Before he "just stopped breathing" he said,

"SON, I AM GOING TO LEAVE YOU TODAY, I'M GOING HOME."

121-Year-Old Former Slave Dies In Mississippi

HATTIESBURG, Miss.—Final rites were held here last week for Mrs. Lucinda Carter, who died at the age of 121.

Born a slave in 1825 when the old tobacco and cotton kingdoms were on the decline, and the seeds of the Civil War were being sown, Mrs. Carter witnessed political and social changes in America, for over a century.

Mrs. Carter lived through four great wars and periods of reconstruction—the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, and the first and second World Wars.

She is reported to be survived by more than 250 great-grandchildren, and lived to see her fifth generation of descendants.

pastor of one of the largest Methodist congregations in the world. Because of his spirit of humility and compassion it was often said that HE WALKED in THE STEPS OF LINCOLN, writes William F. McDermott in CORONET.

One memorable moment in Tindley's career came when he learned that a penitent at his altar was the grandson of the same Maryland planter who had owned Dr. Tindley as a slave! It was only after Charlie was freed that he was able to go to Philadelphia to study, working as a janitor in the very church of which he later became pastor. From complete illiteracy he mastered Greek, Hebrew, science and literature, and ranked second highest in his examination for the ministry.

In 1902 Tindley was called from an obscure Negro church in Cape May to Philadelphia's Bainbridge Street Methodist Church. It was only a store front mission, says the CORONET article, barely kept alive by the faithful. Other pastors consoled Tindley on the "certain failure" that faced him.

But his spark of faith touched off a fire of fervor in the congregation. It grew to such proportions that more and more buildings had to be acquired. In 1924 a huge new edifice costing $350,000 was erected and paid for through the tithes of the members, without bazaars and carnivals. The church, seating 3200, was filled three times each Sunday and often during the week.

For 30 years the Negro preacher's parish became famous not only for its services but for its charity, CORONET reveals. Food, clothing and jobs were found in abundance for the poor. People of all faiths traveled to hear the masterpieces of beauty that were his sermons. Representatives of every nationality and color were active workers among the congregation.

Many offers came to Tindley, including honorary degrees and the submission of his name to the Methodist General Conference for election as bishop—but he always withdrew from such honors, preferring the humble task of shepherding his flock. When he died 5000 people, from government officials to Chinese laundrymen, packed into his church to hear five hours of inspirational tribute. Radio stations broadcast the services, and downtown streets were roped off to hold back the crowds. Today, concludes CORONET, the Tindley Temple Methodist Church stands on Broad Street as a memorial to a Lincoln in Ebony, who, by his love of God and devotion to humanity, won the City of Brotherly Love.

EX-SLAVE IS 100, BROTHER 98

DUBLIN, Sept. 26—One of the oldest residents in this section, Nancy Hozier, celebrated her one hundredth birthday Tuesday. Nancy was born a slave, Sept. 20, 1846, the oldest of 11 children of Shaed and Edith Cummings, and has more than 120 living descendants. Her brother, Daniel Cummings, Montrose, Route 2, who reached the age of 98 Wednesday, is the only member of her immediate family living.

The aged woman is in good health, has her teeth, good eyesight and hearing, her friends declare.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK. -(SNS)—on her birthday were: Paralie M. Mrs. Mary Jane Darpee Lee, in-Nelson and Beatrice Wallace, valid pictured above rose from a Floyd Broadie, Chicago, Illinois, life of servitude and slavery to be-Ganelle, Nelson, B. S. Tennessee come a prominent State, music teacher of Lauder-worker and humanitarian dale County Training School Annie County, Tennessee and Sunday Willis Clark, B.S. Tennessee State, member and charter-music teacher, Carthage High Teacher from eight years to eighty School, Thelma Smith, beautifian, Church, Dyesburg, Calvin Willie, pullman in nty-first birthday Grove Baptist Chicago, Claude Willis, a of her daughter, Bessie P. Ivy Partee, B. S. Tennessee State and Blytheville, Ark. 1946 law student, Northwestern Uni-

She is the mother of ten children, twelve grandchildren, eighteen great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild. All six of her daughters were prominent teachers of Tennessee and Arkansas, and have preceded her in death. Those surviving are Mrs. Florence A. Nelson, automatically retired teacher of Harrison High School, and Mrs. Geneva Haraway, principal of Miss County Training School, and Mrs. Dorothy F. Grandchildren with her all-state leading grammar and high school, honor students of the Nation's colleges. Twice a widow, she attributes her longevity to cheerfulness and faith in God.

Uncle Tom's Heirs Can't Buy Estate

Philadelphia's Ablest Preacher Was Ex-Slave—Coronet Magazine

On July, 1933, the death of an exslave and hod carrier was mourned by all Philadelphia—and by Methodists throughout the world! He was Dr. Charles A. Tindley, who at 17 could neither read nor write, yet eventually became the

Earl Conrad

(Continued from last week)

Negro-Jewish Collaboration

THE PREEMINENCE of the Moses conception is best illustrated in the case of the beloved Negro leader, Harriet Tubman.

The Negro people not only had their own prophets, whom they likened to the biblical seers, but they bestowed the name "Moses" upon one of them, the very remarkable Harriet Tubman. She was small, born a slave, badly beaten in youth, and rebellious. In her late twenties she escaped to the North and embarked upon a career as a conductor on the famous Underground Railroad, the system by which slaves escaped to the North. For her fearless guerrilla raids resulting in rescues of hundreds of bondmen the Negroes soon called her "Moses," and the Abolition movement took up the name. Subsequently, in her association with John Brown and her leadership of soldiers on the field of battle she distinguished herself so that she became, as one historian put it, "first on the list of American heroines," where she stands to this day.

The point is: that the mantle of "Moses," that this symbol of leadership should fall upon the head and shoulders of a slavewoman is perhaps the best attestation of the Old Testament's influence upon the rising black people.

Pre-Civil War Connections

BUT THERE WERE more solid connections between the pre-Civil War Negroes and Jews. Three Jews fought with John Brown in Kansas. Ernestine Rose, daughter of a Polish rabbi, who was known in that period as "The Queen of the Platform," raised her voice for Negro freedom throughout the 1850s. Rabbis in various cities of the North were outspokenly **always** on the anti-slavery side. Jews served on the Northern side during the Civil War and helped in the Reconstruction period. In a later period Jewish philanthropy took special interest in advancing Negro education.

Religion, the church, and the Bible have doubtless exerted opiatic influences in various epochs of history, especially in Europe, but in the anti-slavery conflict the Bible was seized upon as a literary and moral arsenal in the name of freedom, and there is no way of estimating how deep-going, on the subsequent civil conflict, were the words of the ancient Hebrew prophets. Jews, in 1860 and 1865, scattered all over the world, with a few thousands participating in the conflict in America, saw their own ancient struggle reenacted. The events of that historic time bound the Negro with the Old Testament, and thus to the world Jew, and so to the American Jew. Egypt had traveled around the world and down the centuries and landed north of the Mason and Dixon line.

Trade Unionists Cooperate

IN OUR OWN period Jewish trade unionists cooperate extensively with Negro labor leaders, and the voice of the Jew may often be heard in union halls demanding full rights for the Negro.

I think that by and large the cooperative efforts among Jews in interracial work, Jews of all classes, greatly outweighs the real differences that exist in many areas between Jewish small business and the Negro purchaser. I know from pretty intimate contact with various New York Organizations that the Jew has become intensely conscious of a real economic, fraternal and symbolical connection with the Negro group.

There is an opportunity for the American Jew of today to make more solid his historic connection with the world Negro. In the South, in eight states there is the poll tax, disfranchising four million Negroes and more than six million whites. As a result, peonage and semi-slavery still abound in that part of the nation.

Can the Jew, himself widely disfranchised in Europe, hunted through the ages, often victimized even here—can he fail to raise his voice in the growing national call for abolition of the caste system, an accursed hangover of Nineteenth Century slavery? Can the Jew be silent about injustices to the Negro in all of the other civic, social, educational and economic practices of our national life? I know he can't be silent and you know it. It is the job of Negro organizations and individuals meantime to press for closer collaboration with the Jewish influence labor and capital strength and

Harriet Beecher Stowe: Fighter for Freedom

HARRIET BEECHER STOWE: Born June 14, 1811—died, July 1, 1896. This is the 135th anniversary of her birth, and the 50th anniversary of her death.

By STEPHEN PEABODY

UNCLE TOM'S CABIN, OR LIFE AMONG THE LOWLY undoubtedly ranks among the truly great pieces of writing in American history. Judged both by its popularity and by its political effect, Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel was as important to the cause of Abolition as Tom Paine's **Common Sense** was to Independence.

When **Uncle Tom's Cabin** appeared in book form in March, 1852, shortly after passage of the Fugitive Slave Law, it became a best seller overnight. Thousands of copies were sold throughout the North; it was read, discussed, preached about, as few other books have been. Its appalling account of slave life on the plantations, simply but powerfully told, touched the conscience of democratic America. The life of Negroes in the South was not a new story; escaped slaves and others had told it, and Abolition societies employed by her aunt, were destined to appear again and again among Harriet Beecher Stowe's favorite characters.

In 1832 the Beecher family moved to Cincinnati, where Dr. Beecher became head of the Lane Theological Seminary, one of the most famous of the hotbeds of Abolitionism in the North. Harriet taught in Cincinnati at the Western Female Institute, which her sister Catherine founded.

Six of her seven children were born there, and despite her duties as a mother she managed to take a fairly active part in the Abolitionist cause. She visited a Kentucky plantation and saw the life of the slaves in their cabins. To the impressions she gained there were added those of her brother, Henry Ward Beecher, who had seen New Orleans and ascended the Red River. Moreover, she talked with escaped slaves and learned from them first-hand of life under the Simon Legrees. But it was not until 1850, when Mrs. Stowe returned to New England amid the discussion there of the Fugitive Slave Law, that her anti-slavery feelings boiled over into print.

On her way to Brunswick, Me., where her husband, Calvin, had been called to teach, Mrs. Stowe stopped off in Boston to visit her brother Edward. She heard him thunder from his pulpit against slavery, and she listened as he and his wife urged her to write something about it. "Now, Hattie," her sister-in-law wrote shortly after the Boston visit, "if I could just use the pen as you can, I would write something that would make this whole nation feel what an accursed thing slavery is."

To this Mrs. Stowe replied, "As long as the baby sleeps with me nights, I can't do much of anything; but I will do it at last. I will write that thing if I live."

"That thing," some of it penned on scraps of brown paper taken from a grocer's parcel, was first published as a serial in the "National Era," an Abolitionist paper in Washington, D. C., in the last months of 1851. The Boston publisher who had bought the book rights was not very impressed with her story at first. It was too long, [illegible] her. Mrs. Stowe replied [illegible] did not write the book; [illegible] wrote itself. Within a year after publication, the book sold 300,000 copies in the United States, a phenomenal figure for those times.

With **Uncle Tom's Cabin** Mrs. Stowe became a national figure. The pathos of her novel stirred the North and rallied thousands to the cause of Abolition. In the South, of course, she was vilified and accused of "criminal prostitution of the high functions of the imagination," to quote a mild criticism of her book.

The influence of **Uncle Tom's Cabin** was international. A pirated edition circulated a million and a half copies in England, and when Harriet Beecher Stowe toured the British Isles a couple of years later she was received as the authentic spokesman of progressive America. There is no doubt that her book, her visit and a second anti-slavery novel, **Dred, a Tale of the Great Dismal Swamp**, published in 1856, helped create sympathy for the North that paid off during the Civil War.

Once embarked as a writer, Mrs. Stowe applied herself with industry, and for the next thirty years she produced almost a book a year, turning to the New England background for material. None of her later books reached the eloquent pathos of her two antislavery novels, however. She was an earnest and devoted woman, little given to pride and almost untouched by her successes. A full ten years before her death she lapsed into a dreamy state which lasted until she died on **July 1, 1896.**

EX-SLAVE BUYS LOT AND STONE

SIOUX CITY, Ia.—Lee Moore, a former slave who has attained the unusual age of 106, is taking

printed his last [illegible] the United States. Because he to of the old [illegible] was unable to pay passage, the ship's officers sold him as a slave. He remained a slave until which have been printed [illegible] freed by the Civil War. wishes and a photo of [illegible] Negro.

Moore was born in [illegible] in Buenos July 12, 1840. when Buchan- [illegible] he came to no chances. When he dies, there Moore carries a manila pouch will be a plot of ground ready in his pocket containing receipts for him and a headstone to mark for his purchases and to make it. He came to Sioux City re- sure instructions for his burial cently for just that purpose and do not become illegible, the en- invested his last $300 in the lot velope contains a metal plate on

Not All Who Sing Are Happy

["The slaves sing; this proves they are happy." This argument was a stock-in-trade of pro-slavery propagandists. The argument was effectively demolished by Frederick Douglass, who was himself born in slavery and rose to leadership in the Abolitionist movement. The following passage from his autobiography is an enlightening comment on the relation between songs and life.]

By FREDERICK DOUGLASS

Slaves are generally expected to sing as well as to work. A silent slave is not liked by masters and overseers. "Make a noise," "make a noise," and "Bear a hand," are the words usually addressed to the slaves when there is silence among them. This may account for the almost constant singing heard in the southern states. There was, generally, more or less singing among the teamsters, as it was one means of letting the overseer know where they were, and that they were moving on with the work.

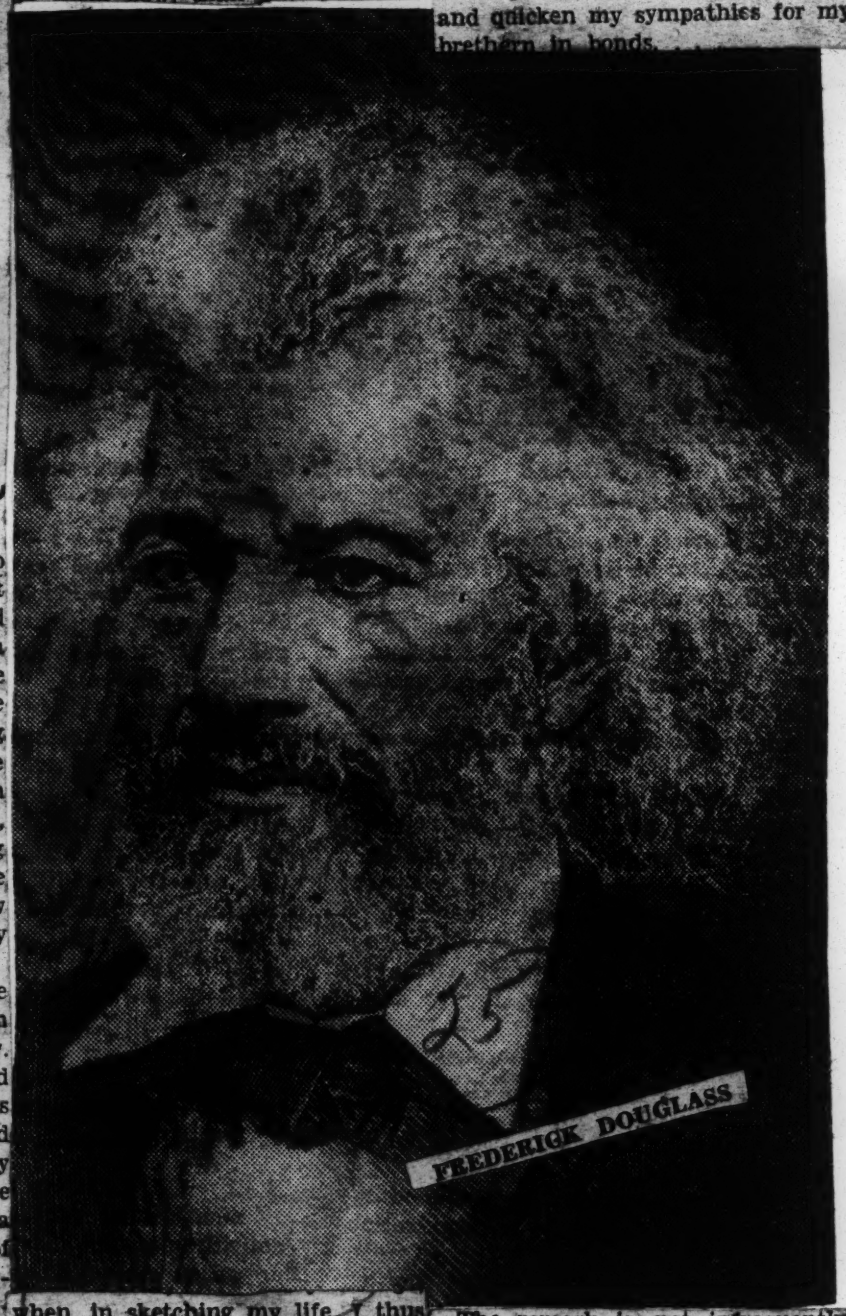
But, on allowance day, those who visited the great house farm were peculiarly excited and noisy. While on their way, they would make the dense old woods, for miles around, reverberate with their wild notes. These were not always merry because they were wild. On the contrary, they were mostly of a plaintive cast, and told a tale of grief and sorrow. In the most boisterous outbursts of rapturous sentiment, there was ever a tinge of deep melancholy.

I have never heard any songs like those anywhere since I left slavery except when in Ireland. There I heard the same wailing notes, and was much affected by them. It was during the famine of 1845-46. . . .

I have sometimes thought, that the mere hearing of those songs would do more to impress truly spiritual-minded men and women with the soul-crushing and death-dealing character of slavery, than the reading of whole volumes of its mere physical cruelties. They speak to the heart and the soul of the thoughtful. I cannot better express my sense of them now, than ten years ago when, in sketching my life, I thus spoke of this feature of my plantation experience:

"I did not, when a slave, understand the deep meanings of those rude, and apparently incoherent songs. I was myself within the circle, so that I neither saw nor heard as those without might see and hear. They told a tale which was then altogether beyond my feeble comprehension: they were tones, loud, long and deep, breathing the prayer and complaint of souls boiling over with the bitterest anguish. Every tone was a testimony against slavery, and a prayer to God for deliverance from chains. . . ." Sues 7-22-46.

To those songs I trace my first glimmering conceptions of the dehumanizing character of slavery. I can never get rid of that conception. Those songs still follow me, to deepen my hatred of slavery, and quicken my sympathies for my brethern in bonds. . . .



The remark is not infrequently made that slaves are the most contented and happy laborers in the world. They dance and sing, and make all manner of joyful noises—so they do; but it is a great mistake to suppose them happy because they sing. The songs of the slave represent the sorrows, rather than the joys, of his heart; and he is relieved by them only as an aching heart is relieved by its tears.

Such is the constitution of the human mind, that, when pressed to extremes, it often avails itself of the most opposite methods. Extremes meet in mind as in matter. When the slaves on board of the "Pearl" were overtaken, arrested, and carried to prison—their hopes for freedom blasted—as they marched in chains they sang, and found a melancholy relief in singing. The singing of a man cast away on a desolate island might be as appropriately considered an evidence of his contentement and happiness, as the singing of a slave. Sorrow and desolation have their songs, as well as joy and peace. Slaves sing more to make themselves happy, than to express their happiness.

Change the World

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y. Thurs.

By Mike Gold

"The age is dull and mean. Men creep,
Not walk; with blood too pale and tame
To pay the debt they owe to shame;
Buy cheap, sell dear; eat, drink and sleep
Down-pillowed, deaf to moaning want;
Pay tithes for soul-insurance; keep
Six days to Mammon, one to Cant."

9-5-46

HERE is the first verse of an abolitionist poem written by John Greenleaf Whittier, sometime around the passing of the Fugitive Slave Act.

The Quaker poet was shaken to his soul by the fact that the respectable, pious, wealthy class at the North had made such an infamous act possible.

Under its provisions, a slave who ran away from a Southern slave state, and managed to enter a free state, must still be regarded under Federal law and the Constitution as a slave, and returned to his master.

Forces of local and state governments at the North were constrained under the act to assist the Southern slave catchers. Any private citizen who aided a slave to freedom was liable to prosecution and heavy penalties by the U.S. authorities.

Abolitionists, the comrades of Whittier, openly defied the disgusting law. His poem was dedicated to them; and Whittier called it, simply, "Lines Inscribed to Friends Under Arrest for Treason Against the Slave Power."

* * *

The slave system was not satisfied with the status quo, or with a house that was half-slave and half-free. It was moving to capture the Federal government. It was forcing the free farmers and workers of the North to share the guilt of slave-holding; all America was to be under the slave system.

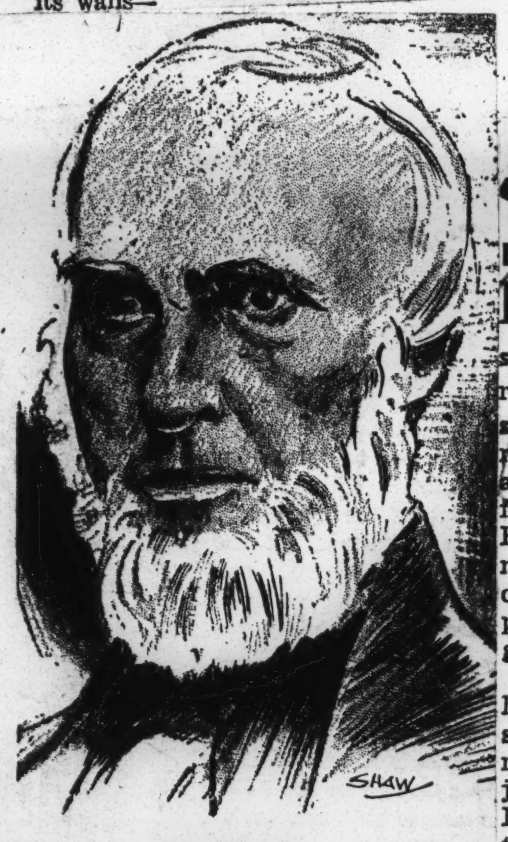
Whittier and his friends felt the dreary doubt and disgust even the warmest patriot can feel when he is faced with a realization that his beloved land is falling under the domination of thieves, slave-holders, imperialists, Ku Kluxers and the like.

And our epoch today seems as mean as that pre-Civil War decade which outraged the good Whittier.

"Buy cheap, sell dear," was all the recent anti-Hitler war meant to a lot of anti-Sovieteering Americans in the high income brackets.

The revelation of million-dollar grafting in war profits is just coming into the daylight.

"Men of the North! beneath your very eyes
By hearth and home, your real danger lies.
Still, day by day, some hold of freedom falls
Through home-bred traitors fed within its walls—



WHITTIER

"The age is dull and mean"

Men whom yourselves with vote and purse sustain,
At posts of honor, influence and gain!"

The atmosphere in America is queer today. The rich are having a wonderful time in the inflation orgy.

Everywhere among the speculators the talk is full of the windy noise of big money and rapid fortunes being made.

There is the atmosphere among the middle classes of a boom period. At the same time, they are anxious and scary. It is not the veritable smug Coolidge atmosphere, somehow.

And the American people, those who get poorer today, not richer, seem a lot more on the alert than after the last war and its boom and bust period.

The imperialists of modern America believe they can trick the people into another world war tomorrow morning—this time against the workers and farmers of Russia.

Thurs 9-5-46

I recommend poetry like Whittier's for their thoughtful reading. It will help them discover that Americans were thinking long and bitter thoughts down below under the surface, even if above, in the realm of legality and machine-rigged politics, the slaveholders were everywhere conquering the republic for their slave system.

The present inflation and profit orgy, as well as the imperialist pressure for a new world war, are not winning the plain people, I believe.

Like the Fugitive Slave Act, this capitalist exuberance and bold aggressiveness may well serve as a signal and warning to organize the people for resistance, as Whittier's generation was thus organized.

Jack Conroy

Inspired

Defender Chicago, Ill

EDMUND FULLER, author of "A Star Pointed North" (Harper, $2.75), says he was inspired to write a novelized biography of Frederick Douglass, leonine Abolitionist orator born a slave on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, after reading a copy of the autobiographical "The Life and Times of Frederick Douglass," found by a friend in a second-hand bookshop. Immediately Fuller's interest was kindled in the remarkable man who taught himself to read and write, escaped from slavery, and became one of the most powerful writers and speakers of his day, regardless of color.

Sat. 11-9-46

Searching through the yellowed files of William Lloyd Garrison's **Liberator** and other anti-slavery periodicals of the orator's day, Fuller ran across plenty of material relating to the object of his attention. The letters and papers of Douglass from his home in Anacostia as well as the exhaustive Schomburg Collection in New York yielded considerable information. From all these sources Fuller has assembled the vital facts of Douglass' career, and they make as exciting reading as one might find in the fiction thrillers of the day. The purpose of "A Star Pointed North," however, is not mere entertainment.

"These three and a half years spent with Frederick Douglass have been one of the greatest experiences of my life," says Fuller. "As I began the work I was amazed to see how few white Americans knew the name of Frederick Douglass. Many even had an idea that he was the man who debated with Lincoln. I hope that this book may help to make him familiar to many Americans who are just beginning to realize how many great men the Negro people have given our country." This is a laudable ambition. It is about time we had more books striking an affirmative note to offset (or at least supplement) the dismal and defeatist threnodies of despair, the chronicles of brutalized underdogs and social misfits. The bitter catharsis effected by novels and sociological treatises purging the Negro soul of its sour load of grievances has been cleansing, no doubt, but there has been a place all along for such books as "A Star Pointed North" and Arna Bontemps' "Black Thunder," a pioneer delineation of a Negro who did not cringe, take refuge in hymn singing, or resort in frustration to a criminal career, but fought back.

Thorn in the Side

FRED BAILEY (he later changed his last name to Douglass) in "A Star Pointed North" is at the age of sixteen a thorn in the side of the Eastern Shore slaveholders. He is a marvelous physical specimen, is not lazy, and quickly grasps the essential know-how of any job assigned to him. But Fred has been "ruined" as a slave—he has tasted of the forbidden fruit of the tree of knowledge, and learned to read through the heretical indulgence of a kindly-disposed mistress. The masters regard him as Caesar did Cassius: "He thinks too much; such men are dangerous." Fred realizes more and more that a larger measure of freedom awaits black men who travel far enough and fast enough toward the North Star. He is the "brains" of an abortive runaway scheme involving several slaves. Sent to Baltimore on the theory that he will have less opportunity to get into mischief there, the young slave learns that a Negro is not permitted to become a skilled workman, no matter how able he may be. There is fierce competition between Irish laborers (only a cut above the Negroes in public esteem) and black men, slave and free, for the less desirable jobs. Fred meets free Anna and resolves to marry her as a free man. He sneaks out through a window in his master's house and attends meetings where the lot of the bondmen is discussed. Here he achieves skill as a speaker and debater, and soon is recognized as a leader.

Eventually he does escape and sends for Anna. In the free North the Negro has enemies, too. Usually the animosity has an economic basis. His effectiveness as an exhibit — proof that a slave is not a beast like a cow or horse but a reasoning creature capable of intellectual development — wins Fred his first great role in the Abolitionist movement. Audiences are deeply stirred by his eloquent recital of his experiences while in bondage. Later he is intimate with Garrison, with Wendell Phillips, Gerit Smith and other celebrated foes of slavery, is sent to England to use his great oratorical gift for the furtherance of the movement there.

Admiration Not Unmixed

DOUGLASS has not been viewed with unmixed admiration. In his latter days he quarreled bitterly with some of his former associates, particularly with Garrison. His refusal to join John Brown in the mad assault on Harper's Ferry was criticized by zealots as an indication of lack of courage. Douglass was dissatisfied with the role given Negro troops in the Civil War, and was even more perturbed when Johnson inherited the presidency. He resolutely refused the tempting political plum offered him—a post as director of the Freedmen's Bureau.

Augusta, Ga., Chronicle
Sept. 6, 1946

105-Year Old Negro Receives Health Test; Supports Local Program

"I owe my strength at my age to the power of the Lord," the Rev. Edward Glenn, 105-year old Negro "free lance" evangelist, and former Gainsville, Ga., slave, told health officials last tweek when he volunteered for blood tests and X-rays at one of the county testing stations.

Now living at 1242 Twiggs street, and preaching whenever he "feels the call," the aged Negro was born in Gainesville, Ga., August 15, 1841, the property of Clinton Brown. Twin to a girl who died at birth, he has raised "some 15 children more or less," with only two of the youngest living today.

With his "young master Walter" it "The War." His mind, not impaired to a great extent by his great age, still holds pictures of the "Yankee the transporting of "rebel army" hauling sections of pontoon bridges down winding Peachtree down to Augusta, with "young master," he added.

Other incidents remembered by the century-old Negro, include caiting the mark with his hand, when they told him he was free. "But I stayed on awhile with my

The self-styled minister said he tossed shells into that city. siege of the Georgia capital. his words unconsciously proclaim

"jes' jumped up this high" indi- and Macon, was in Macon A little stooped by his great

Brown, he was living on Peach- tree street in Atlanta during the War Between the States, which in his memory was the only important war ever waged either in this country or by this country. When he speaks of the long-ago conflict, Union soldiers were preparing when a "Yankee" detachment weight of years, the Negro preach-

er has snowy-white flowing hair, and accompanied his clear strong words with much gesticulation.

Explaining that he was still healthy, the aged Negro offered his staunch support for the current syphilis-tuberculosis drive in Richmond county saying "I want to do good whenever I can."

Primus Hutchison Has Seen Nation's History Pass In Review

Birmingham, Ala. News-Age Herald

BY ROBERT W. KINCEY
News Staff Writer

What's a few years, more or less, in the life of Primus Hutchison?

Hasn't he seen, from a remote corner of this earth to be sure, but through observing eyes and an analytical mind, the biggest part of this nation's history pass in review since the midnight ride of Paul Revere? Sun 8-11-46

He has, and dates and events are as clearly defined in his remarkable recollection as though they were happenings of but a few years, or even days, ago.

Primus Hutchison, whom you would call "preacher" if you were a resident of the coal mining community of Dixiana, Ala., says he was born in 1845; day, Oct. 14; place, Cuthbert, Ga.

The Department of Public Welfare upon which Old Preacher leans in the declining days of his long and eventful life, says his family Bible lists the year of his birth as 1848.

* * *

BUT THE PREACHER has another date. It came to light upon a job application card. It gives the date of his birth as 1856. That, he told the DPW, is his "working age." It made him just eight years younger and eligible to continue earning his own livelihood when men many years his junior and much more vigorous had called it a day and quit.

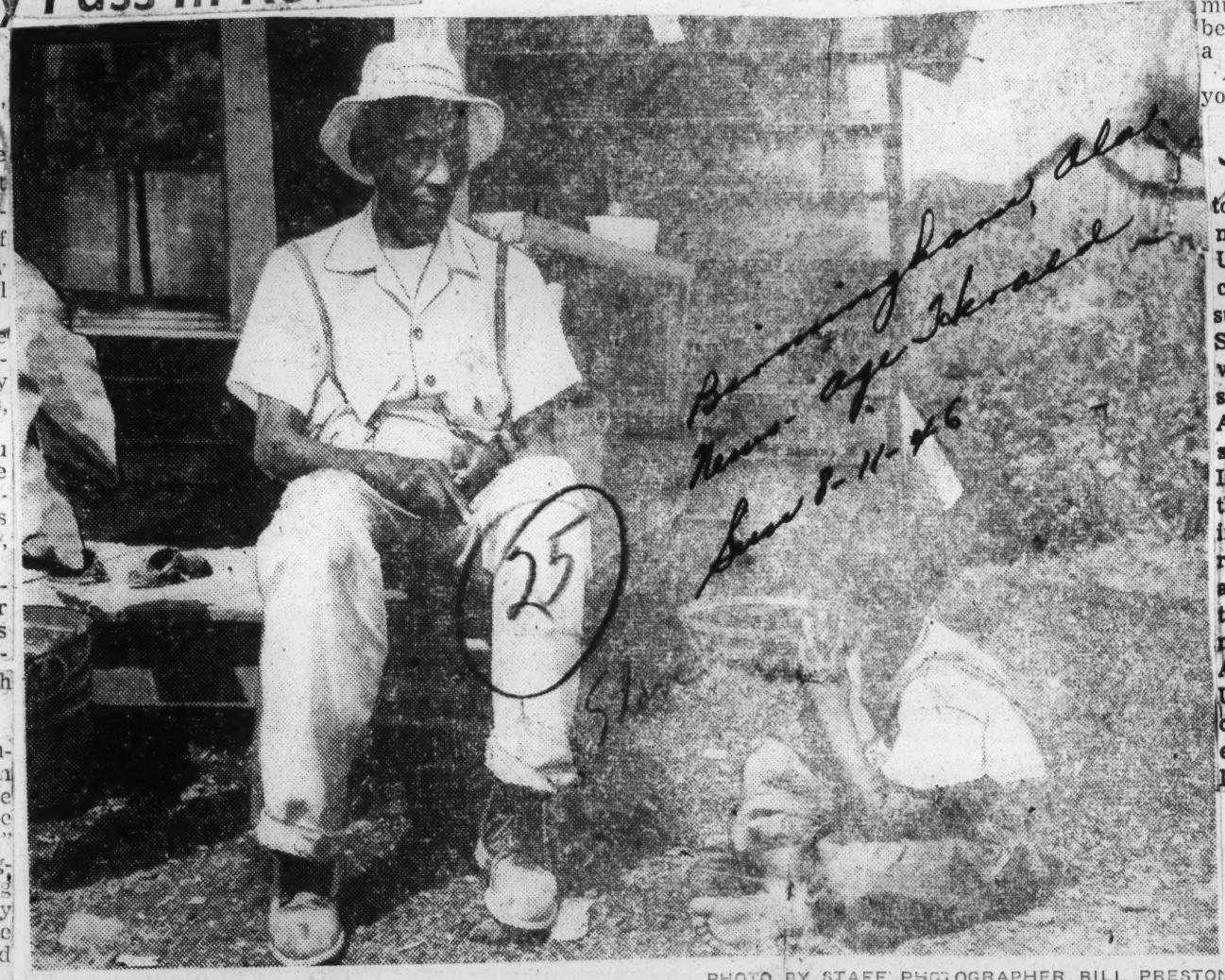
Preacher Hutchison was sitting in the cool beneath the Alabama By-Products Corporation house at Dixiana which he has occupied since 1928 contemplating an assortment of watermelons.

He had written a letter to The News, not so much about his ripe old age and the fact that all is not well with the world, but about his own economic plight.

The company gave him the house rent free, until about a year ago when the shortage caused it to be rented to Steve and Robert Carmichael, brother coal miners for ABC, and their families.

But the newcomers bade him welcome to stay, Primus said, in the same room he has occupied all these years and in which his wife died early in 1937. He has no children or close of kin.

HE'S BEEN GETTING $18 A MONTH through the DPW. A short budget has caused that to be cut by one-fourth. The DPW lists his minimum monthly requirements at $30, and the preacher was disturbed, he told The News, lest he die for want of shelter, food and clothing. The Carmichaels say he



—PHOTO BY STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER BILL PRESTON

A PRODUCT OF THE 1840s—Whether he was born Oct. 15, 1845, as he says, or in 1848 as DPW records disclose, Primus Hutchinson (above), has a rich storehouse of vivid recollections to keep him company in the declining days of a long and eventful life. Here he imparts a solicited word of advice to 6-year-old William Albert, one of a host of friends and admirers in the Dixiana, Ala., section.

contributes what he can to the general household expenses.

Primus Hutchison is a character in the community. He paused momentarily in his chronological recital of a century of living to point an admonishing finger at a group of youngsters who interrupted his trend of thought.

"They like to come around because I tell them stories," the preacher said "and when I have it to spare I give them a few pennies to spend at the store down the road."

Primus says he was in Polk County, Georgia, when the War Between the States started after earlier having been sold as a slave to James Peppers, physician mayor of Rome, Ga. But at the time of the war he had been sold again and was then working on the plantation of Ben Morgan. Sun 8-11-46

"I was plowing," Primus said, "when they blowed the horn in line with President Lincoln's edict that all slaves be freed by high noon May 8, 1865.

"MY MISSUS, that was Miss Martha, Mr. Ben Morgan's wife, she gave us the message. We all met at the lot there at the plantation where Sherman and Lee had fit. The missus told us we could stay, and we wanted to, but the Yankees had burned and ruined just about everything, and there wasn't much chance for them to take care of us. I was heavy-hearted when I left and didn't want to look at the missus or at Seab, the youngest son, who was at home then. Mr. Ben Morgan and his two other sons, Tom and Gus, were killed in the war. They fit all over our place."

Primus recalls that he next went to Kingston, Ga., 15 miles from Rome, where he "went into the hotel business" as a porter at the Sheets Hotel. In 1870, he thinks it was, he went to work for the Cincinnati-Southern Railway on a grading job, and landed at Muscle Shoals four years later, working as a laborer in the channel.

Primus Hutchison's life as an Alabamian, and it's been a clean one throughout, according to company records and the word of numerous friends and neighbors, started in the early 80s when he worked for the Sloss Company as a miner.

The preacher first started to work for what is now Alabama By-Products Corporation when it was Pratt Consolidated Coal Company at Blossburg. He recalls that the merger was in 1920 and that H. E. McCormack brought him to Bradford to work as a miner.

* * *

IT WAS BACK IN THE EARLY DAYS of organized labor in this section that Primus was president of the local union of the United Mine Workers of Alabama. That, he says, was in 1894, and then Philip Murray came to Alabama and got them to "swing over" to the United Mine Workers of America, which later quit the district to be reorganized in 1933 when William Mitch, now president of District 20, came to Birmingham and did the job. Sun 8-11-46

Primus Hutchison thinks straight

as an arrow about things and conditions in general. His counsel is sought from various and sundry sources about community and private affairs, and he regularly visits the school houses to talk to the children there while continuing his ministry on a somewhat limited scale.

Quick as a flash came his answer to a question relative to the state of affairs generally.

"The world," he said, "is worse, much worse morally, than it has been within my memory. But it is a better world humanly."

And that is saying a whole lot if you'll give it a moment's thought.

Well, and Here They Are

The News and Courier, Charleston, S.C.

The Americans should be and are grateful to their ancestors who came to the wildernesses in what is now the territory of the United States and captured the country, converting it into a civilized republic. We suppose that the negroes in the United States are happier that their forebears were brought to this country though as slaves than if they had been left in Africa. A large proportion of them came out of slavery in Africa to slavery in America. If the American negroes were not, on the whole, rather pleased with their fate in America many of them would now be returning to African wilds, travel being easy and cheap. In the United States are humanitarians who believe that it would have been most unfortunate and deplorable had the African ancestors not been brought to the United States and that it was cruel and damnable that they were not set free and enfranchised as voters instantly they were landed. Sat. 10-12-46

Names Of Slaves Identify Resin

Daily Worker, Atlanta, Ga.

SAVANNAH, Ga.—(ANP)—The names of eight Negro slaves, selected to indicate the color and quality of resin in pre-Civil War days continue to be used today, appearing in market quotations concerning the product. 7-28-46

The system was devised by plantation operators, seeking a means of classifying their product. One slave-owner, noticing a golden-skinned Negro girl, is said to have compared her complexion with the color of his top-grade resin and finding that it matched immediately dubbed it "Nancy" after her.

Other grades were compared with other slaves until the various shades of resin, from honey-hued to coal-black, had names of persons. The names, "Nancy," "Katy," "Isaac," "Harry," "Edward," "George," "Dolly," and "Betsy" now are indicated in the pages of the nation's newspapers by their initials. 7-28-46

Grades above "Nancy" now are called "window glass," "water white," and "extra."

120 Year-Old Ex-Slave Dies

The Whip

ONCE SOLD FOR $1,500

Sun 10-5-46 (ANP)

YOUNGSTOWN, O.—Death finally caught up with ex-slave John Watson, who died here last Tuesday night at the age of 120. Watson, born in Raleigh, N. C., was a slave until the Civil War.

First the property of a southern planter in the city of his birth, he was sold to a planter named John Watson for $1,500 in cash when he was 10 years old. He took his master's name. 10-5-46

When he received his freedom, he worked for many years on steamboats running on the Miss. and Ohio rivers. He came to Ohio more than 20 years ago and often told of shaking hands with

was 106. He was believed at the time about of a man who he a passed on a scrap iron yard where ployed as a work- his death, Watson aking hands with

Mansfield, O. News-Journal 10-5-46

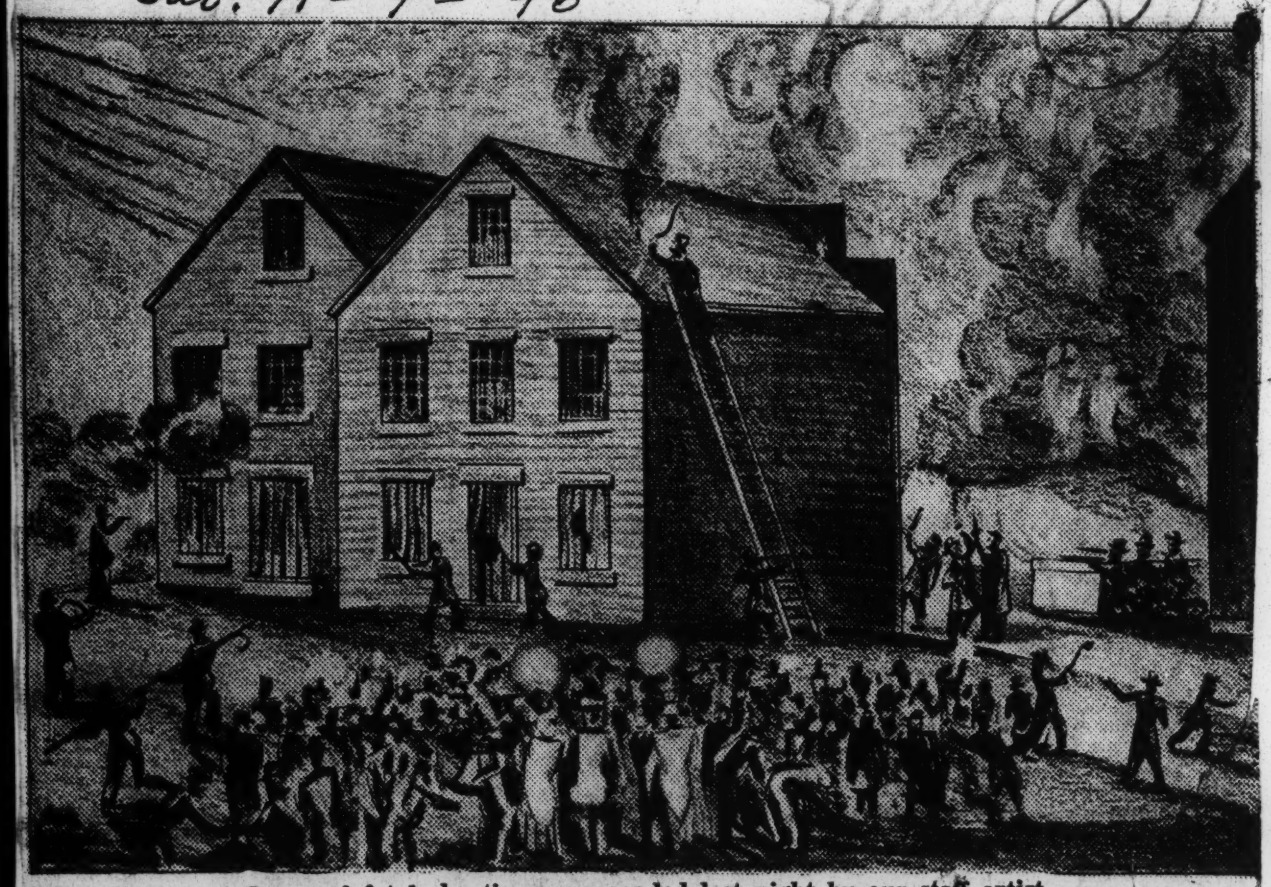
Sat. 10-12-46

President Lincoln.

Defies Press Curb; Editor Is Shot

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 11-9-46



Scene of fatal shooting as recorded last night by our staff artist

ALTON, ILL., Nov. 7—America's free press was saved at 10:30 tonight when Elijah Parish Lovejoy, 34, local editor, received fatal gunshot wounds from an unknown assailant during a riot in the dock district.

Bystanders said that Lovejoy and six friends were attempting to hold off a gang of about 30 ruffians who had reputedly threatened to destroy his printing press, in order to silence his editorial crusade against St. Louis slave racketeers.

Lovejoy's presses had been wrecked or thrown into the Mississippi three times previously, without the culprits being identified, but eye-witnesses have attributed the violence to the deceased editor's continued refusal to soften the paper's editorial policy in the face of threats.

This is an imaginary news account of the death of Elijah Parish Lovejoy 108 years ago. The New England Editorial Association has chosen to honor Lovejoy's single contribution to a free press by erecting to him a $300,000 memorial journalism hall at Colby University, Waterville, Me., Lovejoy's alma mater.

A teacher, minister and editor, Lovejoy enlisted his paper, the St. Louis Observer, in the Presbyterian war against slavery and intemperance.

He protested so loudly that he had to move to Alton, Ill., where through the Alton Observer he denounced the evils of slavery.

Mobs destroyed his press again and again, and each time the Ohio anti-slavery society sent another. When the State society was organized, July 4, 1837, at Lovejoy's call, the Alton citizens formed a mob and destroyed the press.

A new press, awaiting delivery in a town warehouse under guards, was set upon and the rioters tried to burn it. Lovejoy, rushing to the rescue, was shot. The following is reprinted from a booklet issued by the Lovejoy Memorial Committee:—

Lovejoy's position was stated by him at a public mass meeting here last week where he asserted:

"As long as I am an American citizen and as long as American blood runs in these veins, I shall hold myself at liberty to speak, to write, and to publish whatever I please, being amenable to the laws of my country for the same."

Lovejoy was a native of Albion, Maine, and was a graduate of Colby College, Waterville, Maine in the class of 1826. He is survived by his widow who is shortly expecting a child.

Fashioned a Rebellion For the Sake of His Boy

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 10-5-46

25

New light upon foremost rebel who formed 9000 slaves into America's first underground.

DENMARK VESEY

By JOHN JASPER

New light on Denmark Vesey, the West Indian slave, who collected 9,000 followers and planned a slave rebellion that rocked the nation in 1822.

The story is told in October "This Month" by Kurt Singer who utilized all manuscripts in the Charleston, S.C. library as sources. Singer calls his story "America's First Underground."

New facts included the following:

Vesey came from St. Thomas, Africa, by way of San Domingo; and death wounds are treading around his own their mournful way in bitter anguish and despair across burning desert sands and with parched souls and shrivled minds, with piteous thirsts and terrible tortures of body and spirit.

He bought his freedom by winning $1500 in an East Bay Street lottery; "Weep for them, weep for yourself too, if ye will but learn to hate, aye, to hate with such hatred as blazes within me, the wickeder white men who oppress and wrong us thus."

He was a prosperous carpenter who was at peace with the world until he discovered that the only woman he could marry was a slave and under the law her owner claimed his favorite son David, as a slave; Sealed Lips

Vesey collected 9,000 followers and gave them guns, knives and pitchforks:

He would not admit house servants to his underground because they couldn't be trusted. No man who accepted cast-off clothing from whites could join either:

Yet, one of his lieutenants, betrayed him 12 days before the underground was to strike.

One hundred and one of Vesey's key men were arrested. Their plan to sieze ships and escape to Haiti was unfolded in their testimony in court;

Just One Traitor

Thirty-five Veseyites were hanged, 37 deported. Slave owners all over the nation went to bed at night with dreams of having their throats slit;

Vesey didn't cringe at the trial. He simply said:

"I wanted to see what I could do for my fellow creatures in bondage."

His last words to his lawyer were:

"Do not open your mouth in silent as you shall see me do."

"This Month" also reprints this speech discovered in the Charleston Library

He put the rope around his own neck at the hanging and died like a soldier.

Sealed Lips

His last words to his followers were:

"Do not open your lips. Die silent as you shall see me do."

"This Month" also reprints this copy of a Vesey speech discovered in the old Charleston Library

Learn to Hate

"Remember how you are wronged every day.

"Remember how your mothers and sisters, your wives and children were wronged.

"Remember the generations weeping and clanking heavy chains from cradle to grave.

Hate

"Remember the oppression of the living who. with heartbreak

Raze Isl Negro Home In Saint Louis, Missouri

New York Times

Sat. 1-31-46

What Is the Mason-Dixon Line?

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 11-16-46

By Staff Correspondent

The famed Mason and Dixon Line, which as far prior to the Civil War as 1819, marked the border between this country's free Northern States and its slave Southern ones, still serves just as correctly in this our further enlightened age to designate the same situation.

The line in itself is nothing more, however, than an imaginary one marking the boundaries of Maryland and Pennsylvania.

Divides Freedom and Slavery

Shortly after this boundary was determined and became nationally known by its present name, it was definitely viewed as the dividing line between the North and the South — between freedom and slavery.

Subsequent disputes between representatives of the two areas led to the Civil War and wiping out, ostensibly, of slavery in those States south of Pennsylvania's border as established by Mason and Dixon.

It is a matter of record, however, that slave conditions still exist in these Southern States. Federal laws since established which guarantee all citizens full privileges and protection, including voting opportunities and equal rights in courts of law, are in many instances still being ignored.

Distinction Noted in Maryland

Though Maryland is known as the "Free State," it is not such in the same sense as Pennsylvania.

A civil rights law in Pennsylvania guarantees all persons the right to patronize and receive equal service in whatever public establishments and conveyances they choose.

Maryland, where no such statute exists, has a jim crow law affecting travel on intra-State railroad, steamship and bus lines and discrimination against non-whites is widely practiced. Recent lynch mobs on its Eastern Shore remind us that it is far from a "Free State."

The present Mason and Dixon Line marker found on U.S. Route No. 1 about midway between Baltimore and Philadelphia does not correctly mark the border between Maryland and Pennnsylvania.

The actual line is some 35 feet north of where this six-foot high white stone post stands. A highway intersection at that point is responsible for the location of this present marker which was placed there about 1915.

An older marker designating

At left is a close-up view of the new Mason-Dixon Line marker. Right, the original line marker which stands several yards from the new one.

Whites Live in Area

Straddling the Mason and Dixon Line on this highway is the small village of Sylmar, which has some 40-odd white families, most of whom are farmers, and derives its name from parts of the names of Maryland and Pennsylvania.

Oldest resident is Blaine McVey, 62, who lives on the Maryland side and has been there all of his life.

An oil company has tanks straddling the actual boundary line managed by William Robinson, who also operates a confectionery store and gas station a few feet away in Pennsylvania. He pays taxes in both States.

Not Concerned with FEPC

Talks with these persons and a few other residents showed that they were not concerned with the FEPC and therefore knew little about purposes of such an organization.

They know about the poll tax and recent lynchings though, and do not want either in their area.

"We've gotten along without either of those things around here ever since I can remember," said 62-year-old Mr. McVey, "and we sure don't want them now.

"Years ago we used to have a couple colored families living right here on both sides of the line and we all got along fine together. They moved further north though."

Property Prices are Similar

While prices of similar types of property might vary in other sections of the two States, properties around Sylmar on both sides of the Mason and Dixon Line run about the same prices when for sale.

Taxes are about the same there on both sides of the line, according to the Robinsons, except that those of Pennsylvania are slightly higher.

Closest non-white residents to the line in this area are at Rising Sun, Md., and York, Pa., both some four miles away in each direction.

Original Markers are Stones

The actual line marker found off the highway is a triangle-shaped iron post some five feet in height and located beside a single line of railroad tracks of the Pennsylvania Railroad Co.

It is marked on the north side with the letters, "Pennsylvania, Chester County," and on the south with, "Maryland, Cecil County." Across the top are enscribed, "P.B. & W. R.R." This designates the Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington Railroad line which formerly operated a passenger service through Sylmar and had a station there. The station, now destroyed, was opposite the old line marker.

The original Mason and Dixon line markers in that area are small stones located a mile apart on both sides of U.S. Route No. 1. Lettering on both have been almost completely worn away by time and the weather.

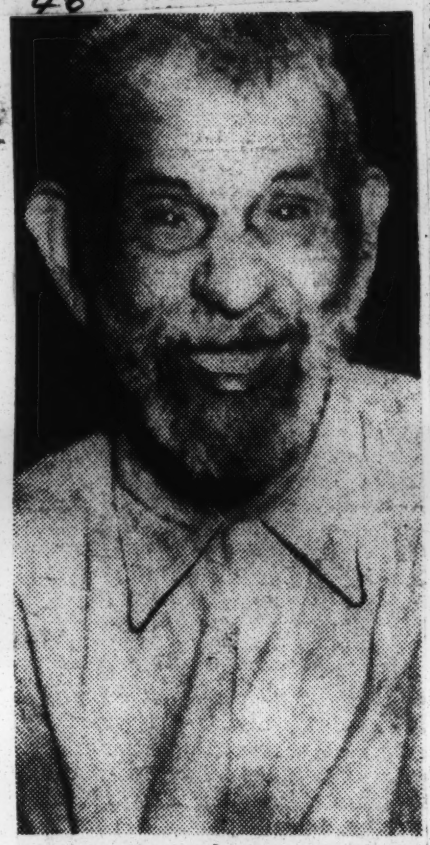
This imaginary line, however still serves the purpose today for which it became known shortly after it was determined—a separation of this country's free States from its slave ones.

Mobile, Ala. Register
Sept. 1, 1946

Uncle Wally, 114, Visits In Mobile

Former Slave Gets To See 'All The Greenwoods'

One-time slave Wally Valarie, 114-year-old Montrose resident, came home to the Greenwoods last week. As a result of his statement, "Oh, if I could just see one of the Greenwoods once more! That is all I would want to live for.' 'overheard by the grandson of "Ole Marse and Missus," W. D. Greenwood arranged for "Uncle Wally" to come back to the family for a visit at 18 N. Monterey St. and see all the descendants of "Marse John" left in Mobile.



—Press Register Staff Photo

WALLY VALARIE

. . . Has Lived 114 Years

Last week "Uncle Wally" sat under the big oak and bemoaned to the Greenwoods that he "wished for a return of the good ole slavery days because Marse and Missus' were so good to us. Marse John use to let me sleep on some rugs by the fire in the big house, and we used to shoot marbles together on the floor. He bought my Mammy off the block for $900 when she was only 17 years old," said the old man, "and he was always so good to me."

Civil War Recalled

The former slave recalled a time near the end of the Civil War when the Yankees stationed at the present site of Old Spanish Fort offered to give back to "John Greenwood his two little mules 'Susy' (a blonde) and 'Fashion' (a bay mare)', which had been used to carry provisions to the Northern forces, if he would send some of his colored folks after them; but Marse John was too good to let any of his slaves go up where the Yankees were."

Dislikes Changes

Ancient "Uncle Wally," who still has a remarkably discerning mind and good memory, appeared "fighting mad" as he told Greenwood descendants "those new white folks had no right to change the name of my home of Greenwood to Loxley 'cause Marse John owned that place and it ought to still be named for him. I remember when he had a contract with a stage coach company back in the ole days to run between our town of Greenwood to Selma; we used to keep as many as 100 horses at a time."

Old "Uncle Wally," who was just a young man during slavery times has outlived five of his 11 children and hopes to see "a few more good years" as he still doesn't use tobacco or whisky, and believes his abstinence and the "Spirit of the Lord" to be the reasons for his long and happy life. Almost totally deaf, white-haired Wally Valarie, still manages to get around and live happily with his many grandchildren at Montrose. He is always sincerely pleased to talk to his white friends about the Greenwoods and slavery days.

Henry Clay and the Negro

Courier Journal

In the August 29 Point of View column there appeared a letter signed "A Southerner," which had to do with the treatment of the Negro in the South. In the same issue of the paper, Paul A. Porter, guest columnist of Drew Pearson, compared Kentucky's Senator Barkley to another of Kentucky's favorite sons, Henry Clay.

Most of us think that the early Southern settlers were responsible for the large influx of Negroes into this country from Africa. The truth of the matter is that the House of Burgesses in Virginia protested a number of years before the Revolutionary War against the unfairness of the law forced on them by England which made it obligatory for every plantation owner to buy four slaves for every hundred acres of land under cultivation. Even though there was a growing sentiment among the better class in England, still that Government refused to check the traffic of slaves to her colonies. Under the terms of the treaty signed at Utrecht, England had taken control of the slave trade from the Dutch and French, and she had found it most profitable.

Northerners, too, are prone to look upon the early Southerners as a lot of hotheads who fought a war because they wanted to keep the colored people slaves forever. I doubt if many of them know the sincere efforts made by such men as Henry Clay toward a fair settlement of the slave problems such as was worked out by England for her slave-owning colonies. Andrew D. White in writing of Henry Clay and his efforts to avert the Civil War, says in part, "Infinitely better than the violent solution proposed to us was his large and statesmanlike plan of purchasing the slave children as they were born and setting them free. Without bloodshed and at the cost of the merest nothing as compared to the cost of the Civil War, he would have thus solved the problem."

Sun. 9-1-46

I wonder how many critics of this country's treatment of the Negro are aware of the fact that the little country of Liberia, which was founded by the American Colonization Society of which Henry Clay was at one time president, was settled by Negroes who were not only set free by their masters, but were given their transportation and provision for their care after their arrival in Africa?

Now we hear loud cries from the North against the evils of segregation (despite New York's Harlem). These critics lose sight of the fact that such segregation, which, incidentally, from my observation is more a matter of natural inclination than of force, has provided the Negroes with their own little business establishments which are patronized by members of their own race. It has also given them a convenient outlet for the services of their own professional men among whom there are many outstanding able persons. Who knows, in the face of past history, but that this country's contribution to the Negro race may result in the democratization of Africa, and with it the development of a racial pride and consciousness that will enable the Negroes of the world to make further contributions to its prog-

Sun. 9-1-46

Helen M. Clarke.

Richmond, Ky.

22 1947

Alabama

Tell It To Old Grandma

PLANS FOR "OLD CAPITOL DOME"

Editor, The Advertiser:

I read an item in the Advertiser on January 7 under the caption, "The Old Capitol Dome," signed by "Old Timer" of Fort Deposit, and am always glad to see public interest in historical things. The Department of Archives and History has long known that the Cahaba Capitol Building dome is on a Negro church in Lowndesboro, but owing to its size, there is no place among the historical collections of the State for this old item in the World War Memorial Building. In addition to that the Negro congregation of the church in Lowndesboro that owns the old dome would be very loathe to part with it, the top of which is the historic part. The Advertiser

It is the intention of the Director of the Department of Archives and History to have a small plaster copy of the dome made by Montgomery's talented artist and sculptor, Mrs. Margaret Whetstone, and placed in the museum collections of this Department. We have a picture of the dome from which the model will be made, about 2 feet at the base. We can then place this model on exhibition with our other historical relics in the World War Memorial Building with a card describing its historical significance. Sun. 1-12-47 Montgomery, Ala.

It is always of great interest to the Director of this Department to have any citizen call attention to any historical item either of a material sort or in the way of diaries, old letters, newspapers, etc., that record the history of our state. I am, therefore, indebted to "Old Timer" for his interest in this old tower taken from the abandoned Capitol at Cahaba, Dallas County, Alabama.

I want to thank "Grandma" also for publishing my letter making inquiry about the old Negro operating the drug store mortar and pestle which stood in front of the Kelly Drug Store. I found the old figure very much dilapidated, in possession of the City Museum, and we hope in time it will be restored to permanent preservation there as it definitely is a local historical item and the City Museum is the place for it.

Sincerely, Sun. 1-12-47

MARIE BANKHEAD OWEN,
Director.
Dept. of Archives and History.

Only Chains Can Be Lost In Fighting World

Memphis Tri. 2-14-47

By J. W. WALLACE

RALEIGH, N. C.—(ANP)—Dr. Herbert Aptheker, member of the graduate faculty of Columbia university and an authority on the history of the Negro, told a vesper service audience at Shaw university Sunday afternoon "The Negro has nothing to lose in fighting for a better world but his chains."

Dr. Aptheker, who pointed out the strivings and the accomplishments of the race in America, declared that "anyone who knows the history of the Negro can face the future with confidence in what he will attain."

Scoring writers who include begrudging mention of the Negro to salve their consciences, the speaker asserted "the study of the Negro is not an act of benevolence but an act of science. The Negro pattern runs through the warp and woof of American life," he explained, and added "American life cannot be understood without understanding the Negro."

Two Great Sins

Dr. Aptheker, who has written a number of books on the Negro, listed "omission and distortion" as the two great sins which characterie history where the Negro is concerned. The speaker cited works by well known historians, purporting to give the whole picture but leaving the Negro out. He called torted pictures responsible for the notions that the Negro "made no efforts in behalf of freedom and has not actively sought enfranchisement." He asserted that such errors will persist "as long as historians like Woodson and DuBois are dismissed as propagandists."

In answering tne question why facts about the Negro are omitted r distorted, the speaker charged America with super-exploitation. "Denial to the Negro of a glorious past," he said, "weakens his case for rightful integration into American life. Only let the people know that against slavery, Negroes fought like tigers, that the underground was theirs, that the Civil war was their war, that the Negro suffered the greatest proportionate loss in the Civil war, and decadent white people might well be glad to grasp the outstretched hand of their Negro brother."

Earl Conrad

Chicago Defender

General Harriet Tubman

JOHN BROWN gave the name of General to a small, black woman, and it stuck with her wherever she traveled in abolitionist circles. "A small black woman whose voice has power to shake the nation that was so long deaf to her cries," was the way in which Frank Sanborn referred to her in 1863 after she had been leading successful military engagements on the battlefields of South Carolina where she helped effect Sherman's victorious march to the sea.

Once, at North Elba, when Harriet Tubman visited Brown and advised him when to strike in the region of Harper's Ferry, Brown, greeting her, said, "The first I see is General Tubman, the second I see is General Tubman, and the third I see is General Tubman." He did not overstate. The whole nation saw her, first, second and third, as "the first heroine of the conflict" (Samuel May).

Chicago, Ill.

'Underground Agent'

SHE BECAME KNOWN as "the greatest underground agent," and time associated this woman exclusively with the Underground Railroad. But her chief contribution was with the army, and her combined abolitionist and war work, together with subsequent reconstruction and suffrage work, give her the full stature of Joan of Arc. That she is a Joan of Arc is not only the author's opinion. None who knew her and served with her called her less than this in her own time. Man after man, leader upon leader suffragist, orator, general, laborer, all looked up on her as the greatest woman the nation had produced in the war. Living in our own day and expressing themselves recently, Oswald Garrison Villard states, "I always understood that she gave magnificent service to the army." Harriet Stanton Blatch, who knew her, writes in her aging hand of the woman's greatness, and she uses "splendid," "vivid," and other superlatives to describe her. The poet, Sarah Cleghorn states it succinctly. "I regard her as the foremost woman in United States history." She was so regarded by Seward, Garrison, Phillips, Douglass, Gerrit Smith, John Brown, and all the others. She was fearless as John Brown; she had remarkable political acumen as attested by one abolitionist after another; she was a commanding personality.

1-18-47

General Tubman's life reads with such drama that many who hear of it will challenge the truth of her achievements. But her record is written into the newspaper chronicles of the war, the magazines and the books of the war. Her life is on all sides of us, and she towers [illegible] Susan Anthony, Lydia Maria Child, Lu-

Yesterday And Today

cretia Mott and the other abolitionists and suffrage women like Abe Lincoln towers over his Cabinet members.

Sat.

Neglected Chapter in History

HARRIET'S EARLY years as a slave, in the dawn of her visions, which equal the visions of Joan of Arc, the emergence of a "Moses" whose voice in abolitionist circles was one of the strongest, her incredulous journeys down into the far South to rescue slaves, and her fearlessness in leading regiments of Negro soldiers into battle form one of the greatest and most neglected chapters in American history.

If all the abolitionists have been neglected, as they have, General Tubman has been most neglected, for she comes remarkably near being the greatest of them. She is distinctly in the class of excellence attained only by Brown and Douglass. This triumvirate stands at the peak of the abolitionist movement, and Tubman's name is one that will forever hold the reverence of the Negro people, and it deserves the respect of white America. France had its Joan of Arc; America has its General Tubman.

Earl Conrad

Chicago Defender

Sojourner Truth, Pioneer

SOJOURNER TRUTH was the first Negro woman an orator in the nation's history. She was campaigning for Negro rights and for women's rights long before many of the celebrities of these campaigns were ever heard of. She was not only early in the struggle, preceding by many years Harriet Tubman, but because of her unusual eloquence and her tall, striking presence, she was one of the most influential women to take part in the cause of freedom.

She could say of woman's suffrage: "If women want any rights, more than they have got now, why don't they just take them, and not be talking about it?" This was an example of her militancy, but this type of demand she more often put forward in connection with Negro rights.

She was mystical, with a deep religious faith, and believed herself God-inspired. She could relate eloquently many Biblical stories, and crusade in a homely, poetic way. She was a prominent figure at anti-slavery conventions, and her presence, which was dignified, self-assured and dominant, was one of the few examples before the white population of the full flourish of the Negro when freed. She had been manumitted, and thereafter she fought to the top of American attention. She daringly took part in the work of the Underground Railroad, and even served as a nurse during the Civil War.

None Better Informed

Ill.

SHE WAS ONE of the great women of abolition, and though her white sisters may have been more lettered or more articulate, none was better informed on the conditions of slavery, and none made a deeper, more personal, appeal to the public than this woman.

2-6-47

Abolition was a period when, for the first time in the nation's history, if not indeed in western world history, women throve. It was a time when more great women appeared on the social scene than at any other time in the nation's history before or since. As the democratic instinct flourished in the nation, upon the revolt from Britain, all progressive ideas gained in ascendancy, and not the least was the Woman's Revolution. Such outstanding women, still neglected in history, as Susan Anthony, Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lydia Maria Child, Margaret Fuller, the Grimke sisters, and others, mounted to heights of intellectual contribution and eloquence equal to and often exceeding that of the male gifts of the time. These women fought for Negro rights with the same vigor that they pressed women's rights. Abolition was a stream in which sex equality developed greatly.

Offered to Nurse John Brown

SAT.

LYDIA MARIA CHILD lashed about with her pen like John Brown did later with his sabres, and when Brown, wounded and suffering, lay in capture in the hands of Virginians at Harper's Ferry, she wrote to him, offering to nurse him.

Originating in the Concord group, admiring the Transcendentalists, she soon ventured forth herself, and in time became one of the noted women of the land. In 1833 she published a work, "An Appeal in Favor of That Class of Americans Called Africans," which established her at once in the forefront of the literary battle against slavery. She contributed heavily to the newspapers and journals of her period thereafter, especially **The Dial**, and in time she branched out as an editor of the National Anti-Slavery Standard. This was an important job. The Standard, published in New York, wielded a wide and progressive influence, and she did not shirk before this crusading task any more than did the martyr, Lovejoy.

2-3-47

She naturally was prominent in anti-slavery councils, and when she wrote another anti-slavery barrage in 1839 called "Evils of Slavery and Cure of Slavery," her prestige was as rooted in the abolitionist circle as was Garrison's.

A woman of brilliance, diverse talents and great energy, she was probably the best pamphleteer and literary sharpshooter in the abolitionist ranks, excepting Harriet Beecher Stowe. And she was a better lecturer than Mrs. Stowe.

Earl Conrad

Chicago Defender

Lucretia Mott, Quaker Woman

THE POET WHITTIER would one day describe Lucretia Mott of Philadelphia, as "a beautiful and graceful woman, in the prime of life, with a face beneath her plain cap as finely intellectual as that of Madame Roland . . ." That was her appearance in 1833 when the Anti-Slavery Society was formed in Philadelphia. Lucretia Mott was a zealous Quaker throughout her long career of active organization and public speaking.

Mostly she worked among the Pennsylvanians whom she knew and whom she could best approach. The historian, Carter Woodson, says that "abolition was put on its feet in Pennsylvania" by her. This is a high tribute for the state was filled with active and talented abolitionists.

2nd

She understood the importance of an economic weapon like the boycott, and she favored proscription of the products of slave labor. She carried with her sugar produced by free labor, and would not use the sugar produced in the South. This zeal she spread widely, and the idea of boycott was taken up by many of the Quakers.

She was a considerable public speaker and an important figure among the leaders of abolition. Due to a cooperative husband who assisted her she was able to give her full time to the cause, and she was an able exponent of the tradition of anti-slavery first begun by Benjamin Franklin.

Lucretia Mott, a joint beginner with Elizabeth Cady Stanton in the fight for women's rights, was fighting slavery long before Mrs. Stanton or Susan Anthony were in the movement. She was able and experienced in organization when the others were just beginning, although all were of about the same age.

Lucretia Mott represented the best contribution of the Quakers to the anti-slavery fight. This is saying much for her because the Quakers earlier contributed Benjamin Franklin and later Susan Anthony and Thomas Garrett. She worked hard and long, indeed for a whole generation, and this was more than most of the others had given to the direct cause of anti-slavery. She was one of the most progressive women during the flowering of American democracy, and she has been honored all too little.

A woman of wealth and culture, her abolitionist activity pre-dated that of Garrison and Phillips. Her home in Philadelphia was the salon for all the professional notables of Europe, and it was an intellectual center of the East. Philadelphia today does not have such a woman notable as it had then.

2-15-47

Abby Kelly Foster, Firebrand

ABBY KELLY FOSTER was more deeply imbued with anti-slavery fervor than any other woman campaigner, unless possibly the Negro ex-slave women themselves. She did not interest herself to the point of activity in any of the other campaigns of the day, but burned only for abolition.

Chicago Ill

She was possibly the best orator among the women for abolition. The historian, Carter

Woodson, says, "She drew such lifelike pictures of the black woman in chains that one could not hear her without shedding tears." She was a wiry woman, energetic, pleasant-looking, soft of feature. She was clever in debate and welcomed opposition. She thrived under pressure.

She worked jointly with her husband, Stephen S. Foster, but he, unfortunately, was not as effective as his wife. Indeed his presence often cancelled the good work done by the woman. He became so tempestuous in his argument, so righteous in his point of view, that it was easy to regard him as fanatical.

But Abby Foster was tireless in organizing, in lecturing, in preparing meetings, getting signatures, standing up under the hardships of travel, and helping the fugitives. She was a voice and a power at anti-slavery meetings.

She was the personification of the type which brought the movement onward to its victory.

Earl Conrad

Defender 22 4

Harriet Beecher Stowe, Novelist

TO HAVE BEEN THE novelist of the War of the States means to have been one of the great American novelists, for this conflict was the highest stage of development to which the American people of the North mounted. Such a novelist was Harriet Beecher Stowe. If she had written "Uncle Tom's Cabin" alone she would have been an important factor in crystallizing Northern opinion, but after that book she kept feeding the press with anti-slavery pronouncements. "Uncle Tom's Cabin" had the same kind of a vogue, as a play just before the war, as "It Can't Happen Here" has in these years. Her play was showing in half a dozen theatres in the North before the outbreak of the war.

Chicago, Ill.

Harriet Beecher Stowe saw one important thing. She saw the Negro as a human being, and portrayed him as such in a time when the Southern propaganda that the Negro "has no human feelings such as we have" had been seeded deeply in the nation's mind. Mrs. Stowe got into the minds of a few Negroes (Josiah Henson is said to have been the original of Uncle Tom), and she showed that they have feelings identically as do white people. That simple fact was a revelation to many whites who actually believed that the Negro was something different, lesser, unique, emotionless.

Harriet Beecher Stowe founded a tradition in literature which was to fade out for a generation or two after the Civil War, and which would be revived by Jack London and Upton Sinclair, and in our time advanced by John Steinbeck and many others. She showed that propaganda and art are identical.

Sat. 2-22-47

Mrs. Stowe's voice was one of the leading women's voices in the North, prior to the conflict. Her lateral work was different than the raw, chilling, perilous contribution of the Negro woman, Harriet Tubman, but it was effective in circles that Harriet could not reach. Mrs. Stowe may have had no other equal among the white women in the abolition period, in terms of influence. Others were better orators, better general workers, but Harriet Beecher Stowe had wielded a pen that was as vital for this nation's needs at the time as Voltaire's had been in France. Her book was a distinct clarion call, rising above all other notes sounded in the same period, calling for the end of slavery. Strangely the echoes of that note have been resounding through American literature ever since.

No novelist since her time has such an enviable and secure place in American letters. Harriet Beecher Stowe may have been responsible for releasing women into the sphere of letters in such large numbers that the time would come in America when literature would to a great extent be in the hands of women, where it is today. She sowed a seed that thousands of women nourished from. Literature was an opening, in a man's world, and a great wave of excellent women writers rode in, in the succeeding generations.

Susan Anthony, the Militant

SUSAN ANTHONY lived virtually in the drapes of the flag. Although she is known as the outstanding exponent of woman's suffrage, she was, during the climactic years of abolition and the war, a leading abolitionist. A follower of Garrison, she was at one time head of the New York State Abolition Society, her chief duties being those of lecturer and organizer for the cause.

Sat. 2-22-47

Susan Anthony first entered the public eye as a temperance advocate, and switched over to the main interest of her life, woman's suffrage, when she met Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Susan advanced into public acclaim so rapidly as a suffragist that, when she supported the other main progressive cause of the time, abolition, she came over as a nationally known ally.

Susan took up temperance advocacy when she tired of the young men who always went to parties "fuddled." She shifted to woman's suffrage because she felt so keenly the subjection of herself and her sisters. She had a fine moral vision, imparted to her by her liberal Quaker father, and she inherited his good health.

The period of her most important abolition work was from 1858 to 1866. Beginning as a crusader seeking to convert New York Staters to anti-slavery feeling, she finished, at the close of the war, with a tremendous campaign to force through the question of woman's rights, to demand its solution along with the question of Negro and national reconstruction. As a result she came to grips both with the abolitionists and with the Republican party.

This breach would stand for many years, but it trained her in the difficulties of politics more than any other experience she had had, and it hardened her for the long suffrage fight in which she engaged from about 1870 onward. She must be remembered as an abolitionist for her untiring contribution in the latter period of abolition, and for her work during the war.

When John Brown was being hung she organized a protest meeting in Rochester.

The women of the nation owe much to Susan Anthony, and Susan knew that she owed much to what she learned about politics in fighting against slavery.

Earl Conrad

Chicago Defender 22 5

Wendell Phillips, Orator

WENDELL PHILLIPS stands in world history with Demosthenes as an orator. In America he is without doubt the greatest orator, more eloquent than Tom Paine, Frederick Douglass, Thaddeus Stevens and William Lloyd Garrison. Oratory was his forte; he knew it, the whole nation knew it. When it was announced that Phillips would speak, the auditorium was packed. The people came and watched the man pace up and down before them, saw his brain working, saw the words form on his lips, and clenched their fists when his phrases stirred them.

Chicago Ill.

As a young man, an aloof aristocrat at Harvard, none knew that he would ever become the champion of the most oppressed people the world has ever known. There was a reason. A woman of unusual beauty, both of the mind and the body, one of those women who, in history, must always be mentioned alongside the name of her husband, saw the greatness of his mind and turned it into anti-slavery channels. Phillips came out into the streets, and, forming a life-long partnership with the great Garrison, lifted a voice that had in it the poetry of Shelley, the fire of Tom Paine, the deep wisdom of the Greek philosophers. Tall, slender, noble of carriage, with a look of loftiness in his soft eyes, he became at the early age of 26 the recognized orator of the times. Neither the abolitionist movement nor the Civil War produced another speaker who exceeded him in command over an audience.

Sat.

When Elijah Lovejoy, the young editor, was murdered in Illinois for his anti-slavery views, Wendell Phillips was so stirred that at a public meeting, arising in defense of Lovejoy's views and in attack upon the murderers, he turned a meeting of chaos into a victory for anti-slavery.

Phillips mounted with the times. He saw all of the issues of the day and expressed the progressive view at all times. Fighter for woman's suffrage, for the rights of labor, for temperance, for all worthy reforms, he was in great demand at the universities, churches and conventions. He became a formulator of abolitionist policy, and the rank and file rallied to his views. Like Garrison he was a dis-unionist, a believer in the fundamentally pro-slavery nature of the Constitution. He believed it was a covenant with the devil, and he was in favor of the North's separation from the South. History, of course, would prove this view incorrect; it would prove that disunion would play into the hands of the South; and that Lincoln would become the great uniter.

3-1-47

Phillips transformed his heritage of aristocracy into one of ideas, words and great deeds. He feared not the wrath of the mob, and faced it more than once. He organized regiments of black soldiers. He mounted in his declining years in sagacity, and remained a voice throughout the nation until his death in 1884. He was truly a titan.

3-1-47

Col. Thomas W. Higginson, Fighting Minister

COL. THOMAS WENTWORTH HIGGINSON came from the same strata that produced Wendell Phillips, Edmund Quincy, and he probably knew the Cabots and Lodges. Nevertheless, he had a powerful sense of action, and during the war he led Negro soldiers into battle. He had sufficient experience in the thick of battle to be able to write, a half century later, a rare book called, "Army Life With a Black Regiment." He was military-minded enough to support John Brown, to admire such an active woman as Harriet Tubman, and, as a minister, he threw his influence entirely to abolition. He was a founder of Brook Farm, that cooperative experiment which was the pride of New England, and for one who might have settled into ease and comfort, but instead threw his energies into the fight for freedom, he went a long way, achieved a prestige of which he could be proud, and contributed more than one man's share to the cause.

He was of the coterie of Brown, Stearns and Sanborn. His personal greatness was exceeded only by the fact that it took excellent men like Brown, Douglass, Phillips and Garrison, and women like Susan Anthony and Harriet Tubman, to best him, to contribute more, to be placed on the scroll a bit above himself.

Earl Conrad

Chicago Defender 22 Sat.

Parliamentary Abolitionists

ABOLITION MAY HAVE RECEIVED its first great impetus in Boston from Garrison, but it exerted more influence, or at least more decisive influence, in the middle states and the West. The younger states had been for long confronted by this issue: should the new states be slave or free? They could see the importance of political action in solving this problem; they knew that legislation would establish the status of these states. It was easier for them to see more sense in political abolition than the non-political, disunion policy of Garrison and his followers. It was the political power of the West, with abolitionist influence a deciding factor, that placed Lincoln into nomination for the Republican candidacy for President. Hereabouts they could see the importance of free soil and a united nation, and it was thus that political abolition flourished. Salmon P. Chase, abolitionist, became Senator from Ohio in 1849, and Joshua R. Giddings, as early as 1838, was selected as the first abolitionist member of the House of Representatives.

Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 3-22-47

Was Almost President

CHASE WAS THE ABOLITIONIST who would rise to the highest position of statesmanship which President Lincoln could award, that of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Indeed, Chase narrowly missed being President himself several times.

He was slow in maturing, tardy in coming around to the abolitionist position. Once when he witnessed an attempt to mob a Western abolitionist editor named Birney, Chase stepped in and tried to quell the disturbance.

Birney made a "recruit" of Chase and induced him to appear as counsel for a runaway slave. Thereafter Chase defended fugitives, penned platforms and resolutions for abolitionist and free-soil organizations, and set out as an organizer of political groups. In the latter field he showed his greatest talent. "He was the first American politician to grasp the possibility of a minority obtaining its end by gaining the balance of power between two major parties." (Umbreit.) Out of his political efforts he became Senator from Ohio, and later he became the first Republican Governor of that state. Chase was deeply enough rooted to abolitionist convictions to have aided Brown in Kansas.

Two ideas fought for ascendancy in Salmon Chase's life, from his early days to his illustrious end. His moral nature bent him toward anti-slavery; his ego bent him toward political heights. This conflict of ambition with his tendency toward the righteous side of things made him very useful throughout abolition and the war. When, however, he became Supreme Court Justice, and when a wave of reaction set in all over the nation and among so many Northern statesmen, Chase was caught up in this backwash.

Chase weakened at this time and lost much of his early progressivism. If he had not done so he could have been called the most influential abolitionist of all.

'Burly And Fearless'

Sat. 3-22-47

JOSHUA GIDDINGS, a figure similar to Chase in political activity, "a big, burly and fearless man, an energetic speaker, especially skillful in answering questions and parrying interruptions," upon entering Congress tried to bring the issue of slavery before that House. Congress, through gag resolutions, had suppressed this question. He introduced petitions for abolition in the District of Columbia, and he fought for abolition through many other channels. He remained a consistent radical throughout, but he did not reach the political height of Salmon P. Chase.

The orator, Charles Sumner of Massachusetts, could not agree with Garrison and early saw the importance of voting. In 1845 he entered public life. In 1846 he broke away from the Whig Party, entered the Liberty Party, and from then on he became a leader in abolition councils.

Here was an instance where the political abolition of the West moved back eastward, drew in Sumner, and with this symptomized a change in the anti-slavery politics in the North. Anti-slavery was widespread, and political action more and more became the form of its influential expression.

Earl Conrad

Chicago Defender, Ill. 22 9

Anti-Slavery Series Ended

MY SERIES on the anti-slavery crusade and some of its outstanding representatives is now ended. My reason for describing this period in American history is that it paralells the great interracial movement of our own period and it is important for us to draw inspiration out of the earlier epoch for the struggles of the present. It would have been better had chattel slavery been entirely vanquished and had not a system of Jim Crow taken its place. Then it would not be necessary to recall the past and to link yesterday with today for the purpose of making a better tomorrow, but Jim Crow is here, and we have to look to the past to find the roots of the caste system and we have to understand that the people have always fought and have always had fighters and scrapping organizations.

3-29-47

We have them today. As I have been saying in this corner for the last two years, we are living through a great period when the caste system is oxidizing away at the surface and perhaps internally. Probably no area of national life is unaware of "the ethnic question" at this hour. America is on the march, in business, labor, church, civic and other areas.

Probably my real conclusions to the series just ended are drawn in my booklength "Jim Crow America" which is now on the newsstands. In this book I have come to the conclusion, stated here a few times during the last year, that the United States must go through the crucible that will lead to a New Reconstruction Government.

Negro Solons in South

Ill.

JUST AS THE OLD anti-slavery movement climaxed in a great conflict, which in 1870 led to new Legislatures in Southern states where Negroes ruled equally with whites, so too, in our time, must white Americans and Negro Americans face the simple truth that something comparable to this is the objective and the logic of history. I do not know just what form and content such a Reconstruction would have. It might be a higher form of capitalism without a wage—differential; it might be a labor government; it could be collectivist. Only time and history can answer what will be the content of such a Reconstruction. In the North, too, society must be reconstructed so that segregation is ended; and I believe we are on the path. I disagree with those who say that change will be a long time coming. Such people do not understand the dynamics of history. They do not grasp the great convulsion in the world today. They ignore that the United States is caught up in the same convulsions which are rocking the world's society.

3-29-47

My new book, where I attempt to describe the system of Jim Crow, passing from one institution to another and describing how Jim Crow operates in each area, has gone into a second printing before publication. It is the One World Book Club selection for May. It has been recommended by the Book-of-the-Month club.

Critic Virginia Kirkus, probably the most influential critic in literature has called my book "the most exciting book on the subject" (the Negro-white question) and has urged booksellers all over America, "Don't miss it." Louis Adamic who is on a lecture tour right now wrote, "I've been plugging your book, telling my audiences to watch for it. You've written a powerful book, a fighting American book."

Bilbo Took the Book

3-29-47

HELEN KEATING NEAL, the first book reviewer to report on the book said, "This book will be burned in some sections of the country," and her comment has gotten around. Seven publishers in foreign lands have asked to see the book. Sen. Theodore Bilbo was handed a copy of my book as he came away from the clinic in New Orleans last Tuesday. "Here's a box of cigars," he was told. When he opened the package, the book, with its brilliant jacket, exploded in his face and he emitted a great grunt of disapproval, and his bodyguard thrust aside the photographer and the gift-bearer, creating, I am told "a commotion." Bilbo, however, took the book along.

Many other things are happening to the book which I'll tell you about next week, having kindly been granted to do so by my editors. You won't be able to get this book at most white-owned bookstores down South. It is under the counter in many places even in the North. If you want to read it send $3.00 to Dept. T-F, Duell, Sloan and Pearce, 270 Madison ave., New York 16. N. Y.

Earl Conrad

Chicago Defender 22 Sat.

John Brown, Martyr

JOHN BROWN'S NAME became associated with the war itself, but it was to abolition that he belonged. He started as an abolitionist, as an operator of the Underground Railroad; it was an abolitionist, as leader of the military wing of the movement, that he went to Kansas, and there, with a small band of rough-riding, two-gun men, whose hearts were with social justice, fought to make Kansas a free state. It was with abolitionists Sanborn, Tubman, Stearns, Douglass and others that he worked. It was only with abolitionists, that he worked; and he turned his seven sons into abolitionists, giving six of them to the cause.

3-8-47

Sat. Sat 3-8-47

Rigid was his youth, rigid like a Puritan's, and he was brought up like a God-fearing man. He could work hard, mightily so all through his youth, teach his children the hardness of life, and bring them over, one by one, to his vision of a free nation, of a flourishing Negro, of a nation of righteousness. He could see one son go mad, watch his others die before his eyes, victims of pro-slavery bullets, and take it all, a lump in his throat, for righteousness, and God and the cause.

John Brown knew America. He slid down into the South at night, rescued slaves, and brought them back North to freedom. He went way into the deep South, and had confirmed his belief in the horror of slavery. He did his bit in Kansas to make it a free state, killing where he had to, sparing few, not sparing himself at all. He went into New England, to Boston and Concord, told of the horror of slavery and of his need for money. He went to Canada and visited the "small black woman," General Tubman, and got recruits for his army among the freed Negroes that the General knew. He could not rest. He had a vision. Beyond in Italy Garibaldi was freeing Italy of tyranny, and America needed a Garibaldi, too.

Chicago Defender

John Brown, God-driven, fighting for right and freedom, and knowing history was with him, lashed out at Harper's Ferry, swung on the gallows, and gave abolition its highest, noblest meaning.

His puritanical youth, his religion, and his

rigorous training in the fields, wove into the righteous wind that became the moving passion of his life, and finally his passion on the gallows.

The Concord Group Chicago, Ill.

THE CONCORD GROUP, headed by Ralph Waldo Emerson, was comprised mainly of Henry D. Thoreau, Bronson Alcott, Theodore Parker, Margaret Fuller, Lydia Maria Child, Ellery Channing and Frank Sanborn. Although they were called the Transcendentalists, and although metaphysics was their philosophy and ecclesiastics a major concern, they were anti-slavers, and in the cases of Sanborn and Child, at least two outright abolitionists developed. The others might be called fellow-travelers of abolition. There was a constant process by which these figures gave the abolitionist cause a whirl for a while, then returned to their own specific interests—philosophy, general criticism, and specialized studies. In the main, the Concord group was a literary movement, and it lent its voice to abolition. It was a powerful ally, an intensely articulate and literary circle.

For Frank Sanborn, a young aristocrat, Harvard graduate, intellectual, and zealous abolitionist, the movement was a cause that was great enough to have one's life. His was the dashing, brilliant approach to the revolutionary movement. For him abolition had an intensely subjective meaning, as well as its meaning of freedom for a people. For Sanborn here was a thing deserving consecration, deserving a tireless devotion, here was something that would happen only once in history, and he had to get in on it. And that he did, mounting to association with the best of the leaders, useful to Brown, Douglass, Tubman, Smith and Garrison.

Sanborn threw himself into the work with great energy, and he was soon editing the Commonwealth, in Boston, doing a fine job in lifting his voice for freedom. Lecturing, raising money, aiding the Underground Railroaders, and venturing into political policy, he was quickly recognized as a talented young man and taken into the inner councils.

Earl Conrad

Defender 22 Sat. 3-15-47

The Concord Group

THE CONCORD GROUP mounted often to more than literary service to the abolitionist cause. Thoreau, objecting to the admission of Texas to the Union as a slave state, refused to pay a certain tax, and he went to jail overnight. When John Brown was hanged, and when conservatives and even the liberals of the time hedged, Thoreau mounted to a supreme height of eloquence in defense of Brown, and his voice was heard nationally. Thoreau was one of the best contributions of Concord to the aid of the abolitionists.

Chicago, Ill

Theodore Parker, a Unitarian preacher, was one of the strongest voices in the nation. He indicted the church, the press, the school, the government and every other agency for the communication of intelligence because these forces supported the crime of slavery. Too liberal for the Unitarians, he was finally ostracised by them, and he had to form his own church. He then ministered to the largest congregation in Concord, and in the main his sermons were denunciations of the evil abroad in the South, and the Northern toleration of it. He burned himself out in early middle life, and the pulpit lost one of the greatest champions of liberty the church ever produced.

Sat 3-15-47

Bronson Alcott might, offhand, have seemed like the mildest manner of man, for he was essentially a philosopher. He, like the other Transcendentalists, believed in "innate wisdom," that by explaining man, one can explain the universe, by understanding one's self, one can understand the environment. This was a philosophy which would, in the same century in Europe, be mercilessly criticised and disproved. Still the metaphysical outlook did not deter Alcott and the others from lining up against such a material presence as slavery, and seeing far enough outside of themselves to the oppression that weighed so heavily in the land. When it became necessary to rescue Anthony Burns, a fugitive slave, in Boston, Alcott fought in the streets of that city for his freedom.

Margaret Fuller flitted about among the Concord group, a woman of many ideas and many interests, one of them abolition. She edited The Dial, whose pages denounced slavery; she pleaded for equal suffrage for women. She was connected with Brook Farm, and was one of the most interesting women of Concord.

Wrote Against Slavery Defender Chicago, Ill.

WILLIAM ELLERY CHANNING, a Unitarian minister whose pulpit was in Boston, was for many years a resident of Concord, and it was while he was a Concordist that he wrote his philosophic preachments against slavery. While the "common men" of the time approached the matter simply, Channing resorted to all of the concepts of time-honored philosophy to denounce the institution of slavery. Invoking the great names and the great ideas of the past, he doomed slavery on all points, moral, philosophic, religious, social and economic. Though he died in 1842, long before abolition reached its highest crest of influence, he left a large arsenal of impressive literary statement for the other orators and writers of the movement to draw upon in their criticism. He was influential in shaming a large section of the church, in seeing its un-Christian way in tolerating slavery. He, above all others, fought the philosophic fight. His writings, to this day, are a fund of eloquent expression against all forms of tyranny.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, as the father of Transcendentalism, was regarded as the best philosopher of the day in the United States, and he was distinctly an anti-slaver.

He attacked all government in general, and a government like his own, that bonded a race of men, was easily vulnerable to his attack. Still he did not contribute to the anti-slavery cause the fund of knowledge and observation that Channing provided. Emerson's voice, however, was mighty and respected, and his challenge to the slaveholders struck terror into their hearts, and lent courage to abolition.

An Underground Railroad Sat. 3-15-47

CONCORD WAS A STATION on the route of the Underground Railroad, and all of the aforementioned supported this sphere of abolition with their money, the use of their homes, and their voices.

Although the philosophic influence of the Transcendentalists was not destined to become a decisive movement in national or world history, the stream of energy that ran from Concord into abolition gave much to the national development. The contribution of the Concordists to anti-slavery, and the influence they exerted upon Northern thought at the time, may have been their most solid contribution.

100th Anniversary:

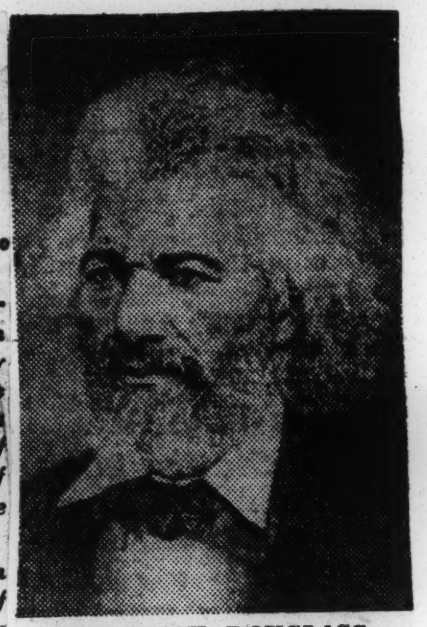
Frederick Douglass' Anti-Slavery Paper

By PHILIP FONER (editor of the Writings and Speeches of Frederick Douglass, to be published by International Publishers.)

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO *an event of major significance in the history of the American Negro occurred. On December 3, 1847, the first issue of "The North Star," edited by Frederick Douglass, came off the press in Rochester, New York. The prospectus stated that its object was "to attack slavery in all its forms and aspects; advance Universal Emancipation; exact the standard of public morality; promote the moral and intellectual improvement of the colored people; and to hasten the day of freedom to our three million enslaved fellow-countrymen."*

Several journals edited by Negroes had already appeared in this country before "The North Star" was launched, but most of them had gone out of circulation after a brief existence. "The North Star" rapidly became one of the outstanding anti-slavery journals in the North and one of the very few to remain in existence over a long period of time. In 1855 the weekly changed its name to "Frederick Douglass' Paper," and, in 1859, to "Douglass' Monthly." But at all times during its sixteen years of existence, the paper edited by a man who had spent the first twenty years of his life in slavery, was proof of the vast potentialities of the Negro people. Although few men in the Abolitionist movement spoke more oftener, more effectively, or to larger audiences than did Frederick Douglass, in many ways his most effective work for emancipation was conducted through his paper.

The article printed below was the opening editorial in the first issue of "The North Star."



FREDERICK DOUGLASS
"we shall energetically assail the ramparts of Slavery and Prejudice. . . ."

Our Oppressed Countrymen

WE SOLEMNLY dedicate the North Star to the cause of our long oppressed and plundered fellow countrymen. May God bless the offering to your good! It shall fearlessly assert your rights, faithfully proclaim your wrongs, and earnestly demand for you instant and even-handed justice Giving no quarter to slavery at the South, it will hold no truce with oppressors at the North. While it shall boldly advocate emancipation for our enslaved brethren, it will omit no opportunity to gain for the nominally free, complete enfranchisement. Every effort to injure or degrade you or your cause—originating wheresoever, or with whomsoever—shall find in it a constant, unswerving and inflexible foe.

We shall energetically assail the ramparts of Slavery and Prejudice, be they composed of church or state, and seek the destruction of every refuge of lies, under which tyranny may aim to conceal and protect itself. . . .

REMEMBER that we are one, that our cause is one, and that we must help each other, if we would succeed. We have drunk to the dregs the bitter cup of slavery; we have worn the heavy yoke; we have sighed beneath our bonds, and writhed beneath the bloody lash;—cruel mementoes of our oneness are indelibly marked in our living flesh. We are one with you under the ban of prejudice and proscription—one with you under the slander of inferiority—one with you in social and political disfranchisement. What you suffer, we suffer; what you endure, we endure. We are indissolubly united, and must fall or flourish together.

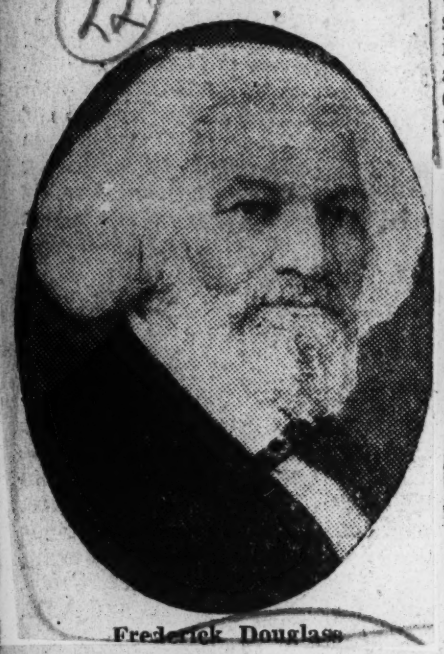
We feel deeply the solemn responsibility which we have now assumed. We have seriously considered the importance of the enterprise, and have now entered upon it with full purpose of heart. We have nothing to offer in the way of literary ability to induce you to encourage us in our laudable undertaking. You will not expect or require this at our hands. The most that you can reasonably expect, or that we can safely promise, is, a paper of which you need not be ashamed. Twenty-one years of severe bondage at the South, and nine years of active life at the North, while it has afforded us the best possible opportunity for storing our mind with much practical and important information, has left us little time for literary pursuits or attainments. We have yet to receive the advantage of the first day's schooling In point of education, birth and rank, we are one with yourselves, and of yourselves. What we are, we are not only without help, but against trying opposition. Your knowledge of our history for the last seven years makes it unnecessary for us to say more on this point. What we have been in your cause, we shall continue to be; and not being too old to learn, we may improve in many ways. Patience and perseverance shall be our motto.

* * *

WE SHALL BE the advocates of learning, from the very want of it, and shall most readily yield the deference due to men of education among us; but shall always bear in mind to accord most merit to those who have labored hardest, and overcome most, in the praiseworthy pursuit of knowledge, remembering "that the whole need not a physcian, but they that are sick," and that "the strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak."

Brethren, the first number of the paper is before you. It is dedicated to our cause. . . .

$100,000 Drive Launched For Upkeep Of Frederick Douglass Home. Feb. 12



Frederick Douglass

Nation-Wide Support Urged By Club Women

Washington, D. C. —(SNS)—

Recurrence of the birthday of the great Frederick Douglass and the decision of the women of the Frederick Douglass Memorial and Historical Association and the National Association of Colored Women to preserve the spirit of the Will of Helen Pitts Douglass have been causes for the relaunching of the $100,000 Drive for the perpetual upkeep of the home of Frederick Douglass.

The drive for funds will be relaunched in a nation-wide effort by the Frederick Douglass Memorial and Historical Association, endorsed and assisted by the membership of the National Association with leaders from the Douglass Home Committee that grew out of the agreement entered into in July, 1936, at Washington by the two organizations.

WOMEN ENTER INTO SPIRIT OF DRIVE

One member of the National Association of Colored Women from each state has been named as a member of the Frederick Douglass Home Committee that shall have equal share of management and upkeep of the Douglass Memorial Home with the life trustees of the organization. This Douglass Home member has been named as the director of the drive in her state and has the duty of organizing the drive and supervising its activity of her state until the $100,000 for the perpetual upkeep of the Douglass Home is assured.

For ages back, peoples of all nations have perpetuated the memory of those great and dear to them by the preservation of their homes; by the preservations of their writings; by erecting monuments to them; and by holding sacred any relic or memento which had a personal touch. The Negro Women of the country are determined that the life of Frederick Douglass, yes, his home also, shall serve as inspiration point for ambitions of the Negro Youth of the Nation.

Mrs. Sallie W. Stewart

Mrs. Sallie W. Stewart, president of the Frederick Douglass Memorial and Historical Association, heads this drive and is determined that it shall be completed. Mrs. Christine Smith, president of the National Association of Colored Women, is boasting that the drive may be completed within the biennial term of the meetings of the National Association of Colored Women.

Shirley Graham Recreates Life of Frederick Douglass

There Was Once a Slave. The heroic story of Frederick Douglass, by Shirley Graham. Julian Messner, Inc. $3.

Reviewed by

MARTHA MILLET

This is a large, sincere work about a great man. Exhaustive study and passionate admiration went into its making. Miss Graham re-creates the life of Frederick, born in slavery, a chattel, who insisted on being a man and in his struggle to that end became the leader, the voice and symbol of a vast oppressed section of the American nation.

He had no surname to call his own. A slave was not accorded that dignity. The master's name was appended. Having escaped slavery, Douglass took a name of his own free choice. It was to ring out in the United States and abroad during a manhood exclusively dedicated to rallying white and Negro America for universal human liberty.

Douglass, the self - liberated though hunted man, could not hold in check his powers of growth. Against the fearful warnings of established Abolitionist leaders, he had to make manifest his transformation from a simple teller in public of his life under slavery to an elucidator of the whole institution of slavery in its manifold effects on the life of the nation, and the ripening conflicts inherent in this situation. He was growing to leadership and could not remain in his earlier role.

As agitator, editor, and valuable wartime consultant to President Lincoln, Douglass was a factor in changing a wavering, suspicious policy into a positive one, first toward emancipation itself, and then toward the right of the Negro to take part in the war which was to strike off their own fetters and loosen the stranglehold of Southern feudalism upon the entire economy of the United States.

The reconstruction period and the counter-revolution which was permitted to put the lords of old back into the saddle are passed over too quickly in Miss Graham's study. At other points too much historical detail is given, as in the chapters on Douglass' visit to England. The internal British situation of that time is gone into rather too meticulously. The course of Douglass' postwar life is rather shadowily drawn, and could gain by fuller development of events around his meetings with Presidents Johnson, Grant, Hayes and Cleveland, his post as ambassador to Haiti, and his other activities. His mind and reactions in this period of generally suppressed or distorted history, are not explored.

One is not always satisfied with Miss Graham's treatment. Incident succeeds incident, yet the depths of Frederick Douglass' mind, motives and human emotions are not adequately plumbed. But this fault is one which Miss Graham shares with others who have essayed biographies, straight or fictionalized, of those who tower out of the people's history.

SHIRLEY GRAHAM

A thoroughgoing scientific, historical approach is still needed to explore these and other questions in the life of Douglass. Those who have read My Bondage and My Freedom, from the

between John Brown and Douglass; and the latter's motives in not joining the old crusader at the critical hour, while apparently going along with him up to that point.

In Miss Graham's book there is no mention of any alleged or actual affair between Douglass and Anna, a participant in novel form. Douglass' de-phical work dealing with this however, a fervor which overis eventually a drag on Frederick, shadows the flaw of occasional making him susceptible to a re- oversimplification.

One cannot help comparing portions of this book with Edmund Fuller's A Star Pointed North, a biography also about Douglass. Mr. Fuller portrays Anna Murray, Douglass' wife, as one who becomes contrastingly backward as her husband

Miss Graham brings us an en- lightened woman—an intel- ligent free woman, a par- tual abolition move- an Englishwoman. Douglass' mother who votion to Anna is constant until and income to her death. He does in later lifewritings, neither Miss Graham while Frederick marry a white woman whose con- sents the demands of her hus- band's career, according to Mr. Fuller's version. When Douglass returns to his wife after his fever- ment, a woman and mot- ed attachment to the English- gladly seeks work and in- woman, he accepts Anna as she is—presumably a woman who will

sustain the family while to England to further his victions are his own.

authoritatively the relationship

hand of Frederick Douglass himself, issued under other titles and in revised form during his career, will find in it an ever-living document of a man molded in struggle to become the symbol of his people, and, along with Lincoln, of his period. Add to this human document Miss Graham's new work, which covers many phases of his career never recorded in continuous fashion by Douglass, and you have a potent index to the second great American conflict whose repercussions are still with us.

WEEK BY WEEK

By SCOTT PRIDE

St. Louis Argus

WORTH CROWING ABOUT

St. Louis, Mo.

A WASHINGTON friend of mine, just on the eve of completing his fourth score of years, is a great admirer of Frederick Douglass. He knew him personally, can rattle off many obscure facts about the great orator's life, and keeps in close touch with the dead abolitionist by constantly reading his works—the autobiography, the newspaper editorials, the speeches. He regards Douglass as one of the greatest men America has produced. Fri. 4-25-47

Last night my friend dwelt upon FD's perseverance, high standards and thoroughness. It seems that Douglass was preparing an address to be delivered at the unveiling of the monument—an address that has found its way into the volume of 'Great American Orations" collected and edited by Chauncey Depew.

A gentleman of the fourth estate by the name of Smith went to interview Mr. Douglass and was ushered into the room in which the latter was working on his opus. The visitor saw a total of seventeen different manuscripts scattered about the room on chairs, tables, sofa, mantlepiece. He inquired:

"Are these also speeches you are to deliver or have delivered, Mr. Douglass?" To which the sage of Anacostia replied:

"No, they are all copies of the same speech I am working on now. I always write a speech over and over until it is perfect."

Scotland

My informant considers the three years Douglass spent in Scotland as among the most valuable years in his life, for they afforded him the leisure to develop himself intellectually and to "fill in the gaps." As you may learn by reading two current volumes on Douglass —Edmund Fuller's "A Star Pointed North" and Shirley Graham's "There Was Once a Slave,"—he had no formal education.

With no extended training in grammar and the use of the mother-tongue, Douglass' early utterings from the platform were liberally sprinkled with flaws, errors, deviations from the King's English. His acquaintances and listeners used to laugh at him on such occasions. Douglass therefore strove to correct his shortcomings, and it was during that trio of years spent in Scotland that he read, read and read. He spent hour upon hour poring over the writings of great writers and famous authors. He came back to this country tremendously improved and more expertly fitted to wield the tongue and pen in the cause of abolishing slavery.

Soon after this recital from the life of Douglass I came home to find a distinguished neighbor—Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis Sr., who had come to deliver a copy of an 1894 issue of the Washington D. C., "Colored American" into my hands as his contribution to the newspaper micro-filming project.

The General is always genial always fluent on the subject of Army life and his experiences in the Army. There were four women in his Sunday evening audience and the discussion lingered for a moment on his habit of sewing on his own buttons, darning his socks, and repairing torn spots in his clothing.

Self-Sufficiency Fri. 4-25-47

"There is nothing I need anyone to do for me," he declared. "You know, I believe there would be much more happiness, much less misery, in the world if more people were able to do more for themselves. This applies to reducing as well as to sewing. In my case I stay at 182 pouds. If I gain one pound. I take off three. I weigh myself every morning and keep close tab on the poundage. 22 F P

"Do you know what is at the bottom of any self-accomplishment?" he inquired, ready with the answer. "Will power!" he declared. "Will power!" It is the power over self. It is most difficult to teach anyone else how to do something unless you can do it yourself, and that calls first for conquest over the self."

Mastery over oneself and mastery of what one does—these are two ideals that have sparked many a commencement address, many a poetic moral, many a pulpit text, many an editorial plea. . These are goals that are cherished as fine expressions of the human stuff — black or white. Fri. 4-25-47

When that force of will power and that search for perfection are present in the Negro personality—in the Douglasses and the Davises and all others of their kind—, the Negro has an assurance for a measure of success and accomplishment in this world. When the great bulk of Negro Americans strive and strain for perfection and self-control, then the Negro will be even more indomitable factor in American life and will himself be eliminating elements that make for difference in our national livelihood.

Smaller Than Life

The Nation

THERE WAS ONCE A SLAVE. The Heroic Story of Frederick Douglass. By Shirley Graham. Julian Messner. $3.

New York, N.Y.

IN HER biography of Frederick Douglass, Shirley Graham has gathered together an absolutely staggering number of details and has approached her subject with an all but breathless reverence and a high purpose—that of revealing the extent of the heroism of this former slave and his significance during the most crucial period of our history. Since she has won the Julian Messner Award for having written the best book combating intolerance in America, the larger implications of her subject are inescapable—the position of the Negro in American society today. Yet I cannot see that Miss Graham has made any contribution to interracial understanding, for she is so obviously determined to Uplift the Race that she makes Douglass a quite unbelievable hero and has robbed him of dignity and humanity alike. As serious biography this performance is very nearly ludicrous; and in the battle against intolerance it seems to me that the book's effect will be negligible.

S&F 2-19-47

Part of the trouble lies in the serious limitations of fictionalized biography. At best it usually manages to be simply a readable account of a historical figure: most often the validity of the characterization suffers in the degree that it is fictional. It is just not possible for a contemporary biographer to know what So-and-So said to his wife at the breakfast table in 1866, or how he felt walking through the woods, or his physiological reactions to heartbreak. The attempt, presumably made in order to bring the reader closer to the subject, actually operates to alienate the reader and to inject an element of unreality. And the false intimacy vulgarizes the subject.

Miss Graham begins her story when Douglass is sixteen and, wild-eyed with adoration, follows him till he drops, some three hundred pages later. From the first sentence to the last his eyes are on a star; the people Sharing his Vision are sometimes allowed to be confused or misguided but are intrinsically noble, and all, with the same monotonous flash of insight, are struck with awe when they see him. The people who are against him are all bilious or drunken or devilishly clever, and it is Miss Graham's peculiar ability to create the impression, no matter what the facts, that these people too tremble at the mere mention of the name of Frederick Douglass. Miss Graham drags in the Forces of History, as many as she can lay her hands on, and as often as the mood strikes her dumps them on the reader and dashes on to the next Douglass triumph. In her account even history bends before the force of this man.

In Miss Graham's history book voices "crack like whips," people fight "like tigers," are "struck all of a heap"; hero and saint alike "shake with rage" or bite "trembling lips," in spite of which time "deals kindly" with them; and every one of them, even Lincoln, realizes that *"few men are like this Douglass!"* (Italics Miss Graham's). Douglass comes to painful, spasmodic life only when she allows him to speak for himself—as she, mercifully, often does, but not often enough. S&F 2-19-47

There is a tradition among emancipated whites and progressive Negroes to the effect that no unpleasant truth concerning Negroes is ever to be told, a tradition as crippling and insidious as that other tradition that Negroes are never to be characterized as anything more than amoral, laughing clowns. Frederick Douglass was first of all a man—honest within the limitations of his character and his time, quite frequently misguided, sometimes pompous, gifted but not always a hero, and no saint at all. Miss Graham, in her frenzied efforts to make him (a) a Symbol of Freedom, and (b) an example of What the Negro Race Can Produce, has reduced a significant, passionate human being to the obscene level of a Hollywood caricature. Relations between Negroes and whites, like any other province of human experience, demand honesty and insight; they must be based on the assumption that there is one race and that we are all part of it. 22 JAMES BALDWIN

A DRIVE TO RAISE $100,000 for the perpetual upkeep of the home of Frederick Douglass in Anacostia, Washington, D. C., has been started. Frederick Douglass was an abolitionist whose home is sacred in the hearts of many Negroes.

The honorary directors of the drive are Mrs. Emma Clarissa Clement, American Mother of 1946, Mrs. Christine S. Smith, president of the National Association of Colored Women, and Shirley Graham author of "There Was Once a Slave." Mrs. Sallie W. Stewart president of the Frederick Douglass Memorial and Historical Association, is national director.

There are leaders in 40 states and leaders in all good-sized cities. The group's first mass action will be in many of the nation's centers Sept. 22.

Afro-American News 9-27-47

'New Masses' Warns People Of Freedom Train Robbers

A Union soldier reading the Emancipation Proclamation in a slave cabin.

By Abner Berry

The Editors of New Masses this week in a special Freedom Train issue warned the American people against those aboard the train who would rob them of their freedom. Whether or not you have visited the now famous red, white and blue special in Grand Central Station and lingered over the precious documents it carries, you should read the current issue of New Masses now on the newsstands. It's a must if you want to understand the well-springs of the tradition which produced the Freedom Train documents.

The "precious freight (of the Freedom Train)" the editors write, "includes the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights, the Constitution and other similar documents that were countersigned by the blood of millions, documents treasured by all honest Americans." And real Americans, they add, would defend them now "with their life's blood as they did in the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, in the war against fascism."

But the centerspread cartoon by Gropper warns that the Freedom after which the Train is named is in danger from would-be robbers. And the potential pilferers of Freedom are named among the sponsors of the Freedom Train.

DENIAL OF RIGHTS

Richard O. Boyer, in the lead article, contrasts the rights guaranteed under the First Amendment to the Constitution to the actual denial of those rights to Eugene Dennis, General Secretary of the Communist Party. "Bedrock," is his characterization of "freedom of opinion, discussion and belief." (Attorney General Tom Clark, a sponsor of the Freedom Train, and a prosecutor of Dennis is among those mentioned as dangers to the spirit behind the Freedom Train documents.)

Howard Fast, the novelist, himself a victim of the House Un-American Committee, calls the documents of the Freedom Train the national will. In moving prose he traces the contradictory currents which produced the American tradition and identifies the one to which he and his colleague adhere.

The Negro's share of the freedom current in the American tradition is discussed by Herbert Aptheker, popular historian, best known for his studies in Negro history. In a slightly different vein Lloyd Brown, a New Masses editor, through a well-drawn sketch of a Negro worker-preacher, who helped build the CIO, shows the strength of labor when it fights for freedom.

In laying the myth of American exceptionalism, Magil refutes the claims that American "free enterprise" is free from the faults of older European capitalism and that socialist ideas are "un-American."

S. Finkelstein reviews American literature's freedom currents and contribution, while Alvah Bessie, who fought with the Abraham Lincoln Brigade in Spain, claims the American and Lincoln traditions for those who marched against Franco and fascism.

After reading the Freedom Train issue of New Masses and reflecting on the Train and its sponsors, one is more than likely to conclude with the editors that these people's documents are in danger. Look round-about. The danger is more than from a robber but also from an embalmer. There are men riding the Freedom Train who would like to see the documents embalmed and enshrined as mementoes of another era. And, if the people are not alert they will embalm democracy along with the documents. John Rankin and Tom Clark are busy with the fluid as you read this.

The New Masses editors should be commended for the services to American freedom rendered in publishing the Freedom Train issue. The issue should have wide circulation.

Dedicating the Freedom Train, Attorney General Tom Clark, the eminent Texan, said, "All of us must be free or none of us are free. No man can have freedom for himself unless he is willing to share it with all, regardless of race, color or religion." There speaks a real American. His official record shows he is sincere, too.

Segregation Barred On Freedom Train

NEW YORK, Sept. 29—(AP)—The American Heritage Foundation, sponsor of the Freedom Train, has ruled that "no segregation or any individuals or groups of any kind on the basis of race or religion be allowed at any exhibition of the Freedom Train held anywhere."

Winthrop W. Aldrich, New York banker and chairman of the foundation's board of trustees, announced yesterday the stand taken by the trustees. He said that "any other course was unthinkable."

"We believe that the overwhelming mass of Americans in all sections of the country will support this position," Aldrich said.

The year-long tour of the train, carrying the Declaration of Independence and other historic documents, will take it to some 300 cities.

The train will leave here Wednesday for Stamford, Conn.

Freedom Train Tour Launched

Truman, Clark In National Appeal

PHILADELPHIA— (NNPA) — President Truman, in a message hailing the arrival here of the Freedom Train, which is to carry historic American documents on a year-long, nation-wide tour, declared Tuesday night that "freedom is everybody's job."

The message was read in a network broadcast from Independence Hall by Atty. Gen. Tom C. Clark.

"Our world will be won or lost in our own homes, our churches, our schools, our union halls," the President said in his message. "I hope that every citizen—and especially our young people—will take part in the special week of rededication of which the Freedom Train's visit will be the climax and will renew and refresh his faith in our democracy.

"No was never before in our history we are going about these duties in the full glare of the world sportlight and in the full view of peoples without our tradition of liberty, our well-springs of strength, who are desperately trying to find the pattern for their own future. Each failure by any one of us mars the picture of us that the world sees."

Attorney General Clark told 5,000 selected school children and, by radio, an estimated 500,000 others in his Independence Square address that "the worst enemy we have to lick is prejudice."

Freedom Train Ban on Segregation Told

NEW YORK—Citing a resolution passed by its executive committee on July 9, to the effect that no segregation of any kindening the freedoms and liberties on the basis of race or religion of all Americans."

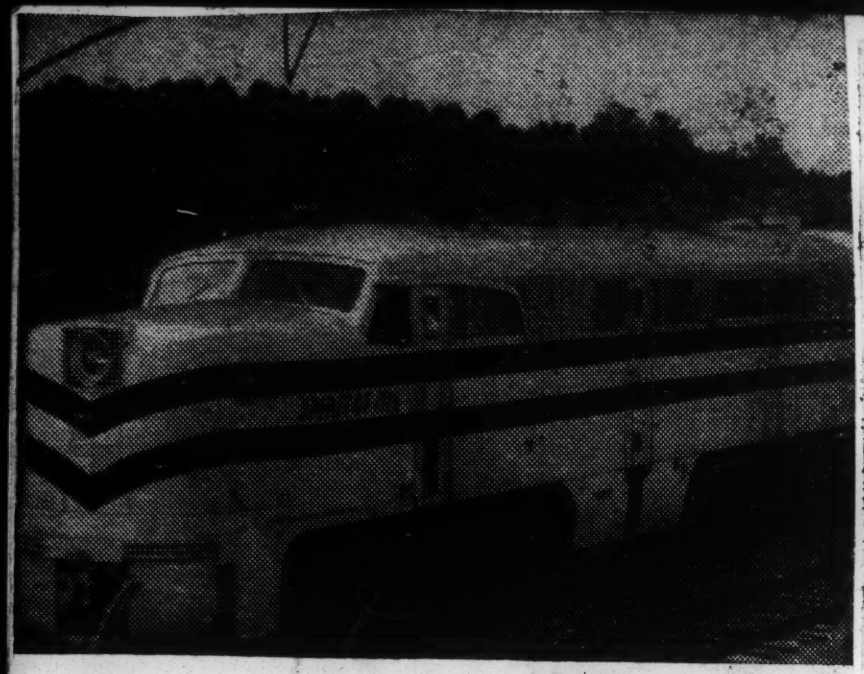
Foundation is that Freedom Train will be open to all pertation, at all times, part of the nation insofar as it is in the the Board of Trustees of erican Heritage Foundacontrol this."

This clear-cut statement of policy was made by Thomas D'A. Brophy, president of the American Heritage Foundation, in a letter dated September 6, to John P. Davis, editor of the "Our World"

Mitted, Freedom

Train Group Vows Anti-Bias Policy

WASHINGTON — "The unequivocal policy of the American



Freedom Train Conversation

By JOSEPH PAULL

Federated Press

AT NINE O'CLOCK all the occupants of the Freedom Train began to retire for the night. The guard shooed out the stragglers, covered the show cases with dark velvet covers, shut all the lights and bolted the doors. Deep stillness enveloped the Freedom Train.

From a specially elevated sterling chest there came all at once the familiar giggle of Bill of Rights. Constitution, lying right beside him, raised herself on her Article III, adjusted her lorgnette and fastened upon him a scorching glance. "What's so funny!" she demanded.

BILL OF RIGHTS only laughed all the harder. "Oh . . . it was so . . . funny . . ." he said, laughing so hard his Right of Trial by Jury began to quiver. "Didn't you see that Senator here this afternoon?" he gasped.

"Why, that old windbag didn't know me from Adam. His secretary had to whisper my name to him. And no wonder, the way he breaks at least one of my rules every day. But then that speech he made about democracy . . . you'd think he had written me!"

"When you're as old as I am you'll get used to that," said the Declaration of Independence, a little haughtily. She was about to repeat her favorite story about the Tory who had signed her and then made a fortune selling provisions to the British Army when she was interrupted by the sound of heavy, low sobs coming from beneath the train.

"That's Wagner Act crying again," said Bill of Rights. "Poor kid, he cries himself to sleep every night. He feels so miserable about being left out, he's been folloiwng the train everywhere we go."

★

BENEATH THE TRAIN, Wagner Act's sobbing ceased. "Of course it's mean to leave me behind!" he shouted. "I'm tired of being picked on. I'm just as good as the rest of you, and just as important. But they all laughed when somebody suggested taking me. They said when Taft and Hartley got through with me I wouldn't even rate storage space in the Congressional library." And again he burst into sobs.

"Now, now, comfort yourself, child," said Constitution. "You should have seen what they tried to do to me when I was your age!"

"And when I was born, some people said they would impeach Lincoln," Emancipation Proclamation said soothingly. "Some of the best people, too."

"I had it worst of all," Declaration of Independence put in. "When Jefferson presented me they wanted to tear out my life, liberty and pursuit of happiness. And they said I was written by foreigners."

"They call me un-American . . ." Wagner Act put in.

"That's old stuff," interrupted Bill of Rights. "Wait till you see what they call you when they really get mad. But it doesn't mean anything in the long run. Every Congress still takes pokes at me, and sometimes they'd like to do worse. But the people kind of like me and stick by me, even if I do say so myself."

★

WAGNER ACT was brightening.. "You mean they can't kill me no matter what?"

"Hell no," said Bill of Rights. "There are things in you that people started fighting for almost as soon as they finished fighting for me. They couldn't lick you without licking me. And let them just try that!"

With this, Bill of Rights turned over and pulled his drape over him. "Now let's go to steep," he said. "I have to listen to another Senator tomorrow. It'll be a tough day."

Rounthwaite

American Heritage Foundation Runs No Jim Crow Train

North West Enterprise

Inquiries have been received by the American Heritage Foundation concerning the possibility of segregation of elements of the public at exhibitions of Freedom Train.

The position of the American Heritage Foundation is unmistakably clear.

On July 9, 1947 our policy was expressly stated at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation. The following resolution was passed unanimously:

"RESOLVED, that no segregation of any individuals or groups of any kind on the basis of race or religion be allowed at any exhibition of the Freedom Train held anywhere."

Later this resolution was unanimously ratified at a full meeting of the Board of Trustees of the foundation. Any other course was unthinkable.

It is our firm determination that the American Heritage Program shall be an instrumentality for strengthening the freedoms and liberties of all Americans, regardless of race, creed or color.

Hats Off!

The American Heritage Foundation to Winthrop Aldrich, chairman of the board, who made the Freedom Train now touring the nation withannouncement that "any other kind of segregation of any individuals or groups of race or religion be allowed at any exhibition of the Freedom Train held anywhere."

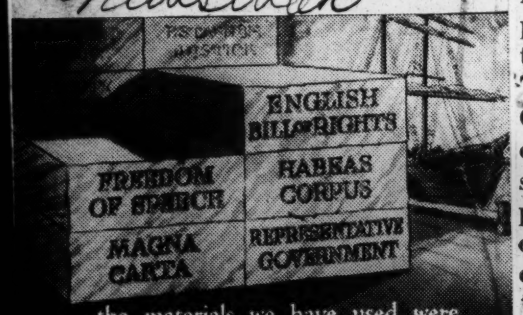
THOMAS D'A. BROPHY
President
American Heritage Foundation
New York City

Heritage of Freedom

Newsweek, Dayton, Ohio

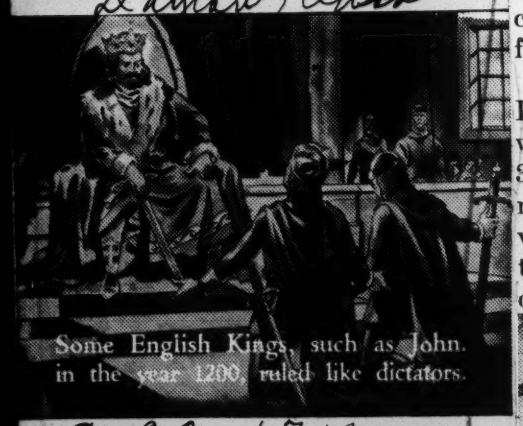
The Communist party in the United States didn't like the idea. The CP, indeed, was openly critical, faintly derisive, and patently hostile to the plan. The ma-

Newsweek



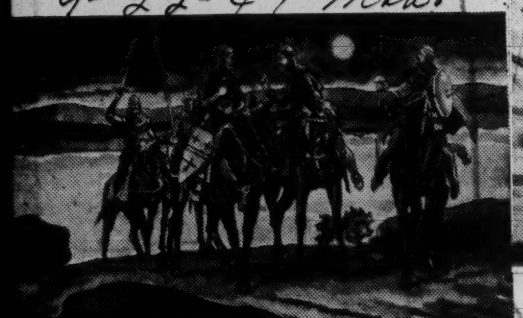
...the materials we have used were brought here by the first European settlers. Let us look to the past.

Dayton, Ohio

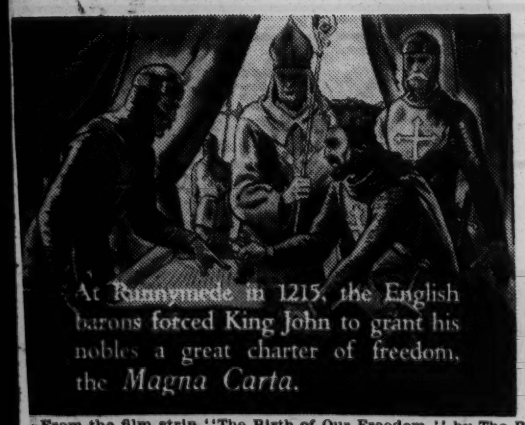


Some English Kings, such as John, in the year 1200, ruled like dictators.

9-22-47 mm.



King John's barons finally threatened war unless they were granted certain liberties.



At Runnymede in 1215, the English barons forced King John to grant his nobles a great charter of freedom, the *Magna Carta*.

From the film strip "The Birth of Our Freedom," by The Reader's Digest Association, Inc.

jority of Americans felt otherwise. For as an educational project, designed to reach not only school children and college students but adults as well, there was nothing just like it. mm. 9-22-47

Essentially the idea, sponsored by The American Heritage Foundation, was simple: to send back and forth across the country during the coming year a Freedom Train exhibiting, under a special Marine Corps guard, the originals of 98 historic documents marking man's struggle for personal liberty and ranging from the first printed letter by Columbus on his discovery of America to the State Department's copy of the United Nations charter. The train would halt in 300 or more communities, always preceded by a mild thunder of ballyhoo involving municipal officials, newspapers, and local radio stations, and accompanied by a delicately contrived educational program built upon the theme of freedom. Newsweek, Dayton, O.

Appropriately, Philadelphia, where the Declaration of Independence was signed, was chosen as the starting point of the 33,000-mile tour. Last Saturday an elaborate program, including a parade of war veterans, an interfaith gathering, and patriotic rallies, got under way. On Wednesday of this week, the 160th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution, the handsome seven-car train was opened to the public for three days. After that it was to start on its tour. mm. 9-22-47

Our freedom we have built for ourselves, but...

Rededication: The formal organizational work of the American Heritage Foundation took place at a White House conference with President Truman last May 22. Represented were various religious, labor, fraternal, professional and business groups. In a statement of principles set forth later by Winthrop W. Aldrich, chairman of the board of trustees and chairman of the board of the Chase National Bank, the problem was set forth succinctly: The United States stood at the crossroads of its history. The menace of totalitarianism of the right had been succeeded by that of the left. The areas of democratic government were shrinking. Americans must rededicate themselves to their cherished traditions.

The foundation itself is nonpartisan. It is supported by contributions from industry, labor, and private citizens, and the whole project is backed by Attorney General Tom Clark. mm. 9-22-47

In preparation for the tour of Freedom Train, Dr. William H. Hartley of Teachers College, Columbia University, wrote an outline for teaching the American Heritage in social-studies classes. Dr. John E. Dugan, of Beaver College, Jenkintown, Pa., president of the department of secondary teachers of the National Education Association, wrote a similar summary for teaching the heritage in English classes.

The Reader's Digest, at the request of the NEA, prepared for distribution on a nonprofit basis, a series of six Teach-O-Filmstrips illustrating the origin and growth of free institutions in England and in this country. A Teaching Guide also was written for use in junior and senior high schools, homes, colleges, churches, community organizations, stores and commercial and manufacturing establishments.

The study guide will be distributed within the next year to 300,000 educators. The elaborate publicity programs will be introduced into every sizable town in the land. Editorial and sports cartoons are to be distributed. And topping it all are comic strips by Ham Fisher, creator of Joe Palooka, and Al Capp, father of Li'l Abner.

Newsweek Dayton, Ohio mm. 9-22-47

Acme

Film strips (above) and high-powered publicity will promote the document-bearing Freedom Train

TRUMAN ASKS U. S. TO 'SHARE LIBERTY'

22

Message Is Read by Clark at Independence Hall to Mark Arrival of 'Freedom Train'

The New York Times

By H. WALTON CLOKE

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 16—The Freedom Train, a shining red, white and blue symbol of democracy, arrived here today, the first stop on its 33,000-mile trans-continental tour.

The seven-car train and its priceless cargo of more than 100 of America's most important historical documents will be viewed by the public for the first time tomorrow, the 160th anniversary of the signing of the United States Constitution here.

Attorney General Tom C. Clark, who is credited for starting the Freedom Train, arrived here today an delivered it into the custody of the American Heritage Foundation which is sponsoring the shrine.

Mr. Clark read a message from President Truman at a special program tonight in Independence Hall. The president said that the documents on the train represented "our common heritage of freedom."

Heritage Must be Shared

"It is a heritage which we Americans must share with the world, for in this noble heritage of freedom for the individual citizen, without distinction because of race, creed or color, lies the world's great hope of lasting peace," Mr. Truman declared.

"More important to the world than the atom bomb," he asserted, "is this conception of freedom for the individual. Whether the areas of freedom shrink in the world or increase in the next few years depends in large measure of how well we Americans perform our duties of citizenship."

"Freedom," Mr. Truman said, "is everybody's job. Our world will be won or lost in our homes, our churches, our schools, our union halls. In the last analysis, we Americans have but one thing to give the oppressed peoples of the world. We have freedom to give them." N.Y. N.Y.

During the afternoon Mr. Clark told 5,000 school children who crowded around Independence Hall and an estimated 500,000 others who listened by radio that the worst enemy Americans have to beat is prejudice.

"Prejudice," he said, "grows out of ignorance. When you find man who is prejudiced against some certain group of Americans because of color, race or religion, you can set it down that he is an ignorant man."

The Attorney General told the school children that the adults of America were counting on their help to "put this badly torn up world back on the right track." He said that the future of America belonged to America's young people.

Youth to Make Decisions

"In a few years you will be making decisions that will determine whether America's tomorrow will be dark and stormy or fair and sunny," he added.

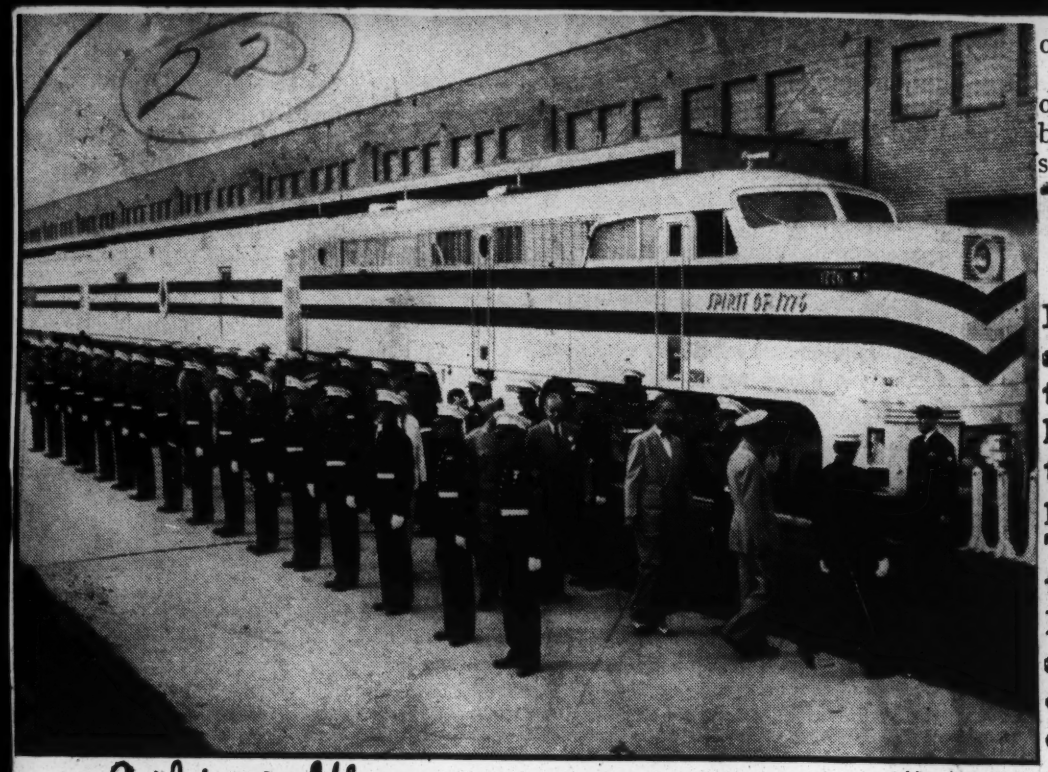
Later in the afternoon, the Attorney General and Mayor Bernard Samuel presided over a preview of the train held for more than 100 business, industry and Government leaders.

While delivering the train into the custody of the American Heritage Foundation during the preview, Mr. Clark declared that liberty and freedom were meant for everyone. Wednesday

"Exactly in the degree that we deny freedom and realistic blessings of liberty to any man," he said, "exactly in that degree do we make prisoners of ourselves. All must be free or none of us is wholly free." 9-17-47

Other speakers at the various meetings during the day and night included John Foster Dulles, member of the United States Delegation to the United Nations; Claude Rains, motion picture actor; Arthur C. Kauffman, chairman of the Mayor's Rededication Committee, and Judge Nochem S. Winnet, chairman of the Youth Committee.

Included among the documents exhibited in the cars is a copy of Christopher Columbus' first printed letter on the discovery of America; Thomas Jefferson's rough draft of the Declaration of Independence, with suggestions by Benjamin Franklin and John Adams; the official original manuscript of the Bill of Rights and the United Nations Charter.



Harris & Ewing

FREEDOM TRAIN: INSPECTION OF THE GUARD

An antidote.

PROPAGANDA

Traveling Heirlooms

In Philadelphia this week the U.S. would see a new kind of propaganda machine. It was streamlined, diesel-powered and air-conditioned. It rolled on rails, was painted red, white & blue, and was guarded by 27 marines. It was the seven-car "Freedom Train," a traveling museum carrying the original Bill of Rights, George Washington's copy of the Constitution and 126 other historic U.S. documents (all under bulletproof glass). After three days in Philadelphia, it would be off on a year-long, 33,000-mile tour through all the 48 states. It would stop in 300 communities, to show U.S. citizens the heirlooms of their democratic ideals.

The Freedom Train was Attorney General Tom Clark's idea. He and a group of advertising men thought the U.S. needed an antidote for what they diagnosed as a rash of postwar cynicism, lawlessness and ideological confusion.

Although the Freedom Train has the Department of Justice as its official sponsor, it is being run and paid for by the American Heritage Foundation, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization backed by such diverse groups as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the C.I.O., the A.F.L., the Loyal Order of Moose and the Girl Scouts. Estimated cost of the Freedom Train's tour: $900,000 (of which only $300,000 has yet been raised).

The train's backers might well have assumed that their project would be as free of criticism as the Barnum & Bailey Circus. But no; the attacks had already begun. Michigan's Congressman Clare E. Hoffman, a hard-shelled, far-right Republican, at once denounced it as a Democratic "buildup for 1948." Illinois' 81-year-old Adolph Sabath, a Democrat, complained because no copy of the Wagner Labor Act was included in the exhibits. In Henry Wallace's *New Republic*, Langston Hughes, Red-winged Negro poet, heaved a shrewdly aimed rock:

Who's the engineer on the Freedom Train?
Can a coal black man drive the Freedom Train?
Or am I still a porter on the Freedom Train?
Is there ballot boxes on the Freedom Train?
Do colored folks vote on the Freedom Train?
When it stops in Mississippi will it be made plain
Everybody's got a right to board the Freedom Train?

Last week the U.S. Communist Party itself threw boulders across the track. It cooked up a ludicrous counter-propaganda scheme. The Commies could hardly come out and say they were against the Bill of Rights and the Constitution. Nor could they attack such backers of the train as Phil Murray, Bill Green or the Girl Scouts. So, in a memo from the party's educational headquarters, district leaders were instructed to tell whoever would listen that the "key backers" of the Freedom Train are "reactionary big businessmen" with a "demagogic purpose." Leaders were told to organize tours through the train only under "prominent progressives."

Said the New York *Daily News*: "Only one thing surprises us about the Reds' bleats. That is that anybody should be surprised."

THE FREEDOM TRAIN

We have a special interest in the Freedom Train, a project beginning awhile ago in Philadelphia, whereby the famous documents of American history will be taken by train for a tour of the nation. The object of the plan, prompted by Attorney General Tom Clark, is to give emphasis to the tradition of freedom as many people have known it in the American past and as some people know it today. Its object is to call upon the people to rededicate themselves to what is broadly called "American principles." Among the documents which will be carried about are the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Emancipation Proclamation.

A most interesting idea.

We wonder how the Freedom Train will operate in the South, whether the people who come out to see the train and its documents, will do so under conditions of segregation. We wonder too, how many of the real documents of American history, documents which would throw light on the traditional white supremacist way of life will appear on the train. We have a feeling there will be none. It is difficult to get overly-aroused, it seems to us, at the thought of the Emancipation Proclamation being carted around the nation —while the class for which it was meant when Lincoln issued it—is still far from emancipated. It seems to us a little hollow, unless the spokesmen who will discuss the Proclamation proceed to explain it has never been vested with reality and that the struggle to make the Emancipation Proclamation real still goes on.

We note that one of the important sponsors of the Freedom Train is the American Legion, the organization, you will recall, which, a couple weeks ago whooped it up for an atom bomb war now, continued its policy of absolutely ignoring the Negro issue, and discrimination inside the Legion locals itself.

We know of a famous document that tells of the agreement between the Republicans and Democrats in 1876 to abandon Negro rights: the document appears in Grant's memoirs and it reveals that the Republicans will have Hayes for the Presidency while the Democrats will have a restoration of states' rights and control over the Negro. We feel that this document has more validity, in practice, at the moment, possibly, than the Emancipation Proclamation.

The Freedom Train may be a good idea—but we want its sponsors to understand that the Negro people know the score, know the real documents, the hollowness of three amendments in the Constitution—and what would happen to a labor man if he sought to quote the Declaration of Independence to certain of the sponsors of the Freedom Train.

FREEDOM TRAIN AIM HAILED BY LEADERS

Speakers at Rally See Faith in U. S. Heritage Renewed by Exhibit of Documents

Americans "will fight for themselves" to preserve their freedoms "wherever or whenever the occasion makes it necessary to do so," Paul Stryker, attorney heading the Lloyd Paul Stryker, attorney heading the speakers' committee of Mayor O'Dwyer's Rededication Committee for the Freedom Train, declared yesterday.

Speaking at a rally in Rockefeller Plaza for which the American Heritage Foundation was sponsor to herald the arrival of the Freedom Train in this city, Mr. Stryker said: "When people talk of communism and totalitarianism, tell them about the documents on Freedom Train."

What the historical documents enshrined in the train, on public view today at Grand Central Terminal, mean to the people of this country was emphasized by former Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson, Lee Thompson Smith, president of the Grand Jury Association of New York County and Theodore Kiendl, law partner of John W. Davis.

Mr. Patterson warned, however, After observing that "for Americans of this day and age it is easy "that our concept of organized so- to fall into the habit of taking our ciety will not survive in the long rights as free men for granted," run unless we can prove in the fu- and stressing that "we are also conscious that there is not world-wide belief in individual freedom today." Mr. Patterson asserted that "there is no room for complacency on our part." He said "there are vestiges of prejudice, intolerance and injustice that must be strengthened so that equality before the law shall be followed with genuine equality in opportunity and in all the values of Americ- can life."

Referring, without use of names, to the recent speech of Andrei Y. Vishinsky, Soviet delegate, before the United Nations Gen- assembly, Mr. Kiendl said: "The charges of war-mongering directed at this country, while 'inexcusably false' and a deliberate misrepresentation, served a useful purpose." He added that it had awakened the American consciousness, "our citizens to and forecast that "our

Freedom Train Recalls Underground Railroad

22 Pittsburgh Courier, Pa.

By CARTER JEWELL

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Freedom Train means different things to different Americans, but to Negro historians and students of Negro history it is a parallel to the real freedom trains known in slavery days as the Underground Railroad. That railroad carried many slaves to freedom and one colored woman, Harriet Tubman, was one of the chief dispatchers.

Some of the historical documents on Freedom Train today were lacking then. Lacking were the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the U. S. Constitution. Some of the features of the Bill of Rights were non-existent, though some which were enacted during the reconstruction era no longer obtain.

RAN UNDERGROUND Sat.

Since constitutional guarantees of the rights of Negroes were lacking during slavery, freedom train had to run underground. Stalwart abolitionists like Frederick Douglass, Sojourner Truth, Charles Sumner, William Lloyd Garrison and others guided the destinies of the underground railroad.

Sympathizing whites in the South cooperated with free Negroes to get the slaves on board. Understanding white and Negro abolitionists in free territory were on hand to take the human cargo at its destination. 12-11-47

The underground railroad was a real freedom train. The present Freedom Train sponsored by Atty. Gen. Tom Clark and directed by the American Heritage Foundation can't afford to ignore the significance of the underground railroad in helping to make 4,000,000 Americans free men and women.

Published statements about Freedom Train have said little about the period in American history dealing with the struggles for Negro freedom. There are documents on all phases of the American revolution and there certainly must be some on the Civil war period.

Freedom Train documents show Sir William Berkley, early governor of Virginia, a traitor who hoped that public schools would never exist in Virginia. Jefferson Davis, president of the Southern Confederacy, who was probably as anxious that the slave system remain, and others of his period could only be included in the historical documents at the risk of insulting the South.

CHOICE LETTERS

There are on record some choice letters and speeches of Abraham Lincoln that certainly should be among the documents on Freedom Train. His second inaugural address merits a place among the documents. Some of his letters on various phases of the conduct of the Civil war with gems of thought on the Negro issue should be on Freedom Train, and surely his Gettysburg address ought be included and no doubt it is.

The two main periods in American history in the struggle for freedom are the Revolutionary and Civil war periods. The first was concerned with the liberty of the colonists and the latter with the emancipation of Negro slaves. One is as much a phase of America's struggle to establish a republic of free men and the other and both should have equal display and exhibit on Freedom Train.

Some Cities Spurn Freedom Train, Cling to Hatred

22 The Worker New York, N. Y.

The Freedom Train, scheduled to begin its run through the South during December, is putting city councils and municipal authorities everywhere on the spot. The train will stop only in communities where white and Negro spectators are allowed to visit the exhibits without segregation.

Mayor Hartsfield of Atlanta made a forthright statement in defense of the non-segregation policy of the American Heritage Foundation, sponsor of the Freedom Train:

"The Freedom Train," he said, "will be open at all times to all persons regardless of race or creed. The exhibits on the Freedom Train are those priceless documents guaranteeing the basic freedoms of the American people. I do not see how anybody can draw a color line through freedom and justice.

"So far as I am concerned, I am willing to stand beside any American citizen, regardless of race or creed, in mutual admiration and respect for these great historical charters of American freedom."

Sun. 12-7-47

IN MEMPHIS, however, the Freedom Train will not stop, unless popular pressure forces the city council to reverse its insistence on segregation of white and Negro spectators.

The Commercial Appeal, largest Tennessee newspaper, attacked the city authorities, and urged a reversal of their stand:

"Apparently the people of this community, white and colored, will not get a look at the Freedom Train," said the editorial November 20th. ". . . Memphis thus becomes a symbol of suppression to the rest of the country. 12-7-47

"The expressed fear of incidents unless Negro and white citizens are given separate inspection periods lacks the quality of sincerity. The Freedom Train will exhibit elsewhere in the South and in the immediate surrounding territory.

"Freedom Train sponsors did not outline conditions that were intolerable. Refusal of local authorities outrages the sense of fair play and sets Memphis apart as a city where freedom literally cannot raise its head.

"It is a grave mistake, the magnitude of which will become increasingly apparent as the train rolls on through the South and the nation. It is not too late to correct it."

★

HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI citizens will be deprived of seeing the train because the Mayor, George Calhoun, insists on a plan to "conform to our traditions." Hattiesburg will be remembered as the place where in 1943 the Federal Government was unable to get a conviction of the lynchers of Howard Wash, Negro farm worker of Laurel, in spite of the overwhelming body of evidence presented.

Selma, Alabama, one of Alabama's three cities with a majority Negro population, will miss the Freedom Train, too, unless the citizenry makes some demands on the city government. The mayor there evaded the issue by announcing callously that the city would be too busy during the pre-Christmas week, and that some traffic hazards might result from crowds going to see the train.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

Atlanta, Montgomery, Ga.

The Freedom Train Rolls

The Freedom Train, (arriving in Montgomery Dec 29) carrying a lesson in democracy to the doorsteps of the American people, is now rolling across the country. Tremendous crowds line up to view the Bill of Rights, the Declaration of Independence, and other stirring reminders of our American heritage. It is the most important exhibit on American freedom in our entire history.

Believe it or not, however, the idea was once ridiculed as a day-dream, later branded as a political stunt. The backstage story of how the Freedom Train was born is an epic tale of one man's tenacity. Today, his name doesn't even appear on the list of sponsors. He is Attorney General Tom Clark and his battle to launch the train lasted two stormy years.

Actually, the train grew from a $20,000 idea to a $40,000,000 project. Clark's original thought was to send one car on tour, principally through the South. The chief passenger was to be the Bill of Rights. He hoped it might promote civil liberties and combat racial intolerance. Later he enlarged on the idea, plotted to contrast the rise of liberty in America with its fall in Nazi Germany. Talking this over after

CLARK

"you have my str
Encouraged, C
His answer came
Government agenc
cans had a strang
General fought to

Private Citizens To Rescue

At this point, a story in this column about the proposed Freedom Train brought an avalanche of letters to the Justice Department and brought a group of private citizens to the Attorney General's rescue. With no thought of personal profit, they formed the American Heritage Foundation. And instead of nearer $40,000,000, counting free advertising and services, before the Freedom Train ends its 33,000-mile journey.

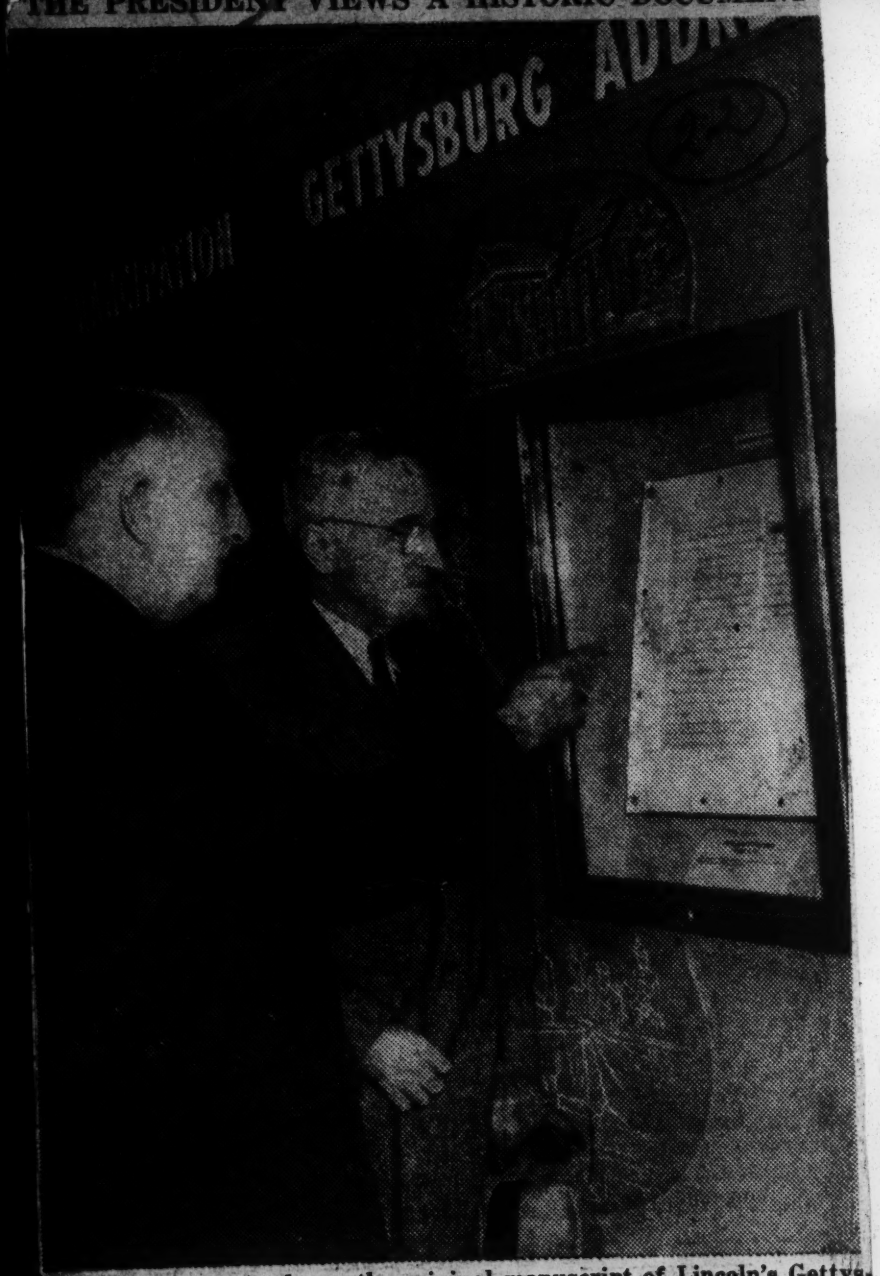
But Clark's troubles were not over. Congressman Clare Hoffman, reactionary GOP bloodhound from Michigan, indignantly summoned Clark before the House Expenditures Committee. 10-25-47

"It looks to me," snorted Hoffman, "that this is nothing but a political stunt."

Clark protested angrily, explained the details of his plan. "The price of liberty in 1947," he told Hoffman, "is the same as it was in 1776. It is eternal vigilance."

Convinced of Clark's sincerity, the Michigan Congressman gave him a clean bill of health. The Freedom Train was finally ready to roll.

THE PRESIDENT VIEWS A HISTORIC DOCUMENT



Mr. Truman is shown the original manuscript of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address by Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson during visit to the Freedom Train at Union Station in Washington.

Freedom Train sped across the Mason-Dixon line this week with documents of democracy aboard. At all stops in Southern cities, Negroes and whites will file through the cars together. But at Memphis, Tennessee, and Hattiesburg, Mississippi, which insist on segregation, the train will just whistle and keep on rolling.

DRAWING BY MILLST

Times N.Y.

By ANTHONY LEVIERO
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

President Visits Freedom Train, Wishes All Could See Documents

Sat. 11-29-47 12

Government Is Fighting for World Peace, He Tells Crowd at Capital—Vinson Makes Plea for Strong U. S.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28—President Truman expressed the wish today, after a half-hour visit to the Freedom Train, that people of all countries could see and understand the precious documents of American heritage.

Leading members of his Cabinet, the United States Supreme Court and other Government officials through the exhibit, Mr. Truman reacted with varying moods.

He posed solemnly for the photographers besides Jefferson's rough draft of the Declaration of Independence. He joked at the entries for rum for the Continental Army, inscribed in Washington's own hand in his account books of the Revolutionary War.

When he emerged from the Freedom Train at Union Station here, Mr. Truman made a brief speech into newsreel and radio microphones, while several hundred persons listened just outside the train gates. 11-29-47

"I have just been aboard the Freedom Train," said the President, "inspecting the wonderful documents out of which the Government of the United States was founded.

"I sincerely wish that every person in this country, and in every other country for that matter, could see those documents and appreciate just what they stand for — freedom of the individual and liberty to live as that individual sees fit, so long as he lives in harmony with his neighbor.

"That's all this Government stands for, that is what we are fighting for now—for world peace."

Then Fred M. Vinson, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, who had been at the President's elbow during the tour, stepped up to plead for a strong United States until the world could find peace.

"Our fathers in the early days," said Justice Vinson, "were faced with grave problems, foreign and domestic. The Constitution was the bedrock of a novel experiment in government—the right of free people, under law, to protect and govern themselves. Today we face grave problems, but what a different picture!

"Then—thirteen sparsely settled units — weak units. Today — the most powerful nation on earth. Then—no structure—no foundation rocks. Today—a great government with its foundations unimpaired—yea stronger through the solidifying effect of time. These documents gave to us rights, privileges and liberty—never before possessed by man." 11-29-47

President Truman was the sixtieth visitor of the day by the time he had arrived at the train at 11:15 A. M. After the tour, he stopped before two Boy Scouts and signed "The Freedom Pledge"—the 621,751st to do so during the train's tour of the country.

"Yankee Doodle" and other patriotic airs were played as Mr. Truman entered the first car. On the left-hand side he saw an exhibit entitled "The Beginnings" and noted such papers as a Columbus letter of 1493 and the Magna Charta.

Next were "the seeds of freedom"—such papers as Penn's Charter of Privileges of 1701; the Mayflower Compact; "No Taxation Without Representation"; Jefferson's Bill for Religious Freedom; and Washington's letter "to bigotry . . . no sanction."

Eventually Mr. Truman passed from the yellowing documents with their fading scripts to the era of the typewriter in which he saw the Atlantic Charter and his own proclamation of the Independence of the Philippines.

New Orleans—Mayor DeLesseps Morison doesn't even intend to mention the race angle.

Birmingham—Police Commissioner Eugene Connor announced that separate lines will be formed for whites and Negroes with 25 from each line passing through the train alternately.

The American Heritage foundation had not said up to Saturday whether it approved this arrangement.

FREEDOM TRAIN WELCOME EVERYWHERE BUT MEMPHIS

Chicago Defender Sat. 11-29-47

While Memphis and Shelby county officials insist on segregation in showing documents on Freedom Train other cities in the South are clamoring for a chance to exhibit the Constitution, Declaration of Independence, and other guarantees of American freedom. Samples of official comment follow.

Little Rock—Charles Small, chairman of the mayor's arrangements' committee, said segregation is "contrary to the purpose of the train's visit."

Atlanta—Mayor W. B. Hartsfield told the Associated Press there will be no segregation.

Jackson, Tenn.—Mayor George Smith declared that segregation "is not necessary, and won't conflict with any city ordinances."

Pine Bluff—Mayor George Speed can see "no reason" for segregation.

Meridian, Miss.—Mayor Frank Jacobs said his city will meet the non-segregation conditions required by the train's sponsors.

Hattiesburg, Miss.—Mayor George M. Calhoun promised that there will be no segregation.

Richmond, Va.—The city will not require segregation, according to the mayor.

Montgomery—There will be no issue over segregation promised Mayor John Goodwin

Defender

22 1947

Freedom Train On Tour for All Americans

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat. 12-13-47
22

By STANLEY ROBERTS
(The Courier's Public Relations Director)
(Continued from last week)

Important in the Freedom Train's catalogue of contents is the document known as the Mayflower Compact, a code of conduct in which a group of the earliest and best known

American settlers demonstrated their inherent capacity for self-government.

The American Philosophical Society has provided the Pennsylvania Charter of Privileges of 1701. This is the original of the famous document signed by William Penn in making one of the most important grants of colonial liberties.

Also from the Library of Congress comes the Declaration of the Nine Colonies, dated 1765. Also some works of the immortal Tom Paine, particularly the celebrated pamphlet which was instrumental in swaying public opinion in favor of independence in which the author declared that "the cause of liberty in America in this hour is the cause of all mankind." Also the pamphlet in which Paine speaks of "the times that try men's souls."

• • •

PROBABLY NO DOCUMENT on show in Freedom's Train will attract more attention that the one and only Declaration of Independence itself. It is the rough draft penned by the author, Thomas Jefferson, with verbal changes by Benjamin Franklin and John Adams noted thereon.

Accompanying this rare Freedom Train exhibit is the original letter written by Jefferson on the night of July 1, 1776—while the Continental Congress was debating the adoption of the Declaration—to his friend William Fleming.

Equally interesting in this tion of the exhibit is the ma script copy of the Declaratio Independence, duly attested and signed by Benjamin Franklin and Silas Deane. There is also the original copy of the only known letter written by a signer of the Declaration of Independence on the historic date of July 4, 1776, on which momentous occasion the famous document was enacted into law.

Sat. 12-13-47

A CONSPICUOUS example in Freedom's Train presentation of important papers is Roger Williams' Statement on Religious Freedom, dating back to 1644. Williams stated his grounds for believing that all individuals and religious bodies are entitled to religious liberty as their natural right.

Freedom Train offers a "refresher course" for any who wish to be brought up to date on the great initial steps in the formulation of free American Government. In its exhibits are many documents pertinent to the achievement of the Constitution. Outstanding is the original of the great Bill of Rights. It is the first time that it has ever been outside of the national capitol.

• • •

ALSO SHOWN on the Freedom Train is a letter press copy—from the Library of Congress—of Jefferson's letter to Edward Carrington, 1787, in which he advanced the argument that if the press were free, the truth would reach the people, and the people could and would form correct judgment in matters of government.

Walking down the aisles of Freedom Train's exhibit cars you can actually gaze upon the original manuscript of the U. S. National Anthem as composed and written by Francis Scott Key.

• • •

ABRAHAM LINCOLN, the "Great Emancipator," embodied a growing American abhorrence of slavery that was climaxed by the Civil War of 1861-1865. There is his famous letter to Horace Greeley, editor of the New York Tribune, dated Aug. 22, 1862.

Displayed also on Freedom Train is an enlarged photograph of the joint resolution of Congress proposing the Fourteenth Amendment that extended citizenship to Negroes. It was designed to guarantee civil rights to the Negro. Presented also is a copy of the Fifteenth Amendment. This had to do with the enfranchisement of the Negro. There is also the Emancipation Proclamation.

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
22

No exhibit of Lincolniana would be truly representative without some specimen having to do with the immortal document beginning: "Four score and seven years ago . . ." delivered on the battlefield at Gettysburg on the afternoon of Nov. 19, 1863. There are other important Lincoln documents.

Sat. 12-13-47

MANY OTHER documents are included—the Atlantic Charter in recent times; civil government in the Philippines; the United Nations Charter—all of these unfolded before your very eyes on the FREEDOM TRAIN . . . For all Americans to see and be thrilled by.

Thousands In Mobile Board Freedom Train

Courier
22

MOBILE, ALA., Dec. 26.—(AP)—An estimated 8,000 persons boarded the Freedom Train here Friday to view the precious documents from the great hours of American history which it carries.

White and Negro spectators mingled in the single continuous line which moved through the three-car exhibit in a seemingly endless procession, and Mayor Charles A. Baumhauer said, "we never had a minute's trouble."

"We handled the visit of the Freedom Train in the same way that we handle the visit of a warship," he said. "We don't have segregation of visitors then."

The crowd of visitors, including delegations from other cities in a 100-mile radius. was about equally divided between the two races.

Montgomery, Ala

Mayor Baumhauer presided at a brief program Friday morning before the train was opened to the public. Members of the local Rededication Week committee, including a Negro dentist, Dr. E. T. Belsaw, sat on the speaker's platform.

Bands from schools for both races provided music for the crowd.

Sat. 12-27-47

The march through the train was led by 400 honor school students of Mobile County, donors to the American Heritage Foundation, and members of the Rededication Week committee.

The Freedom Train was parked on a siding on the Mobile River front, near the grim gray hull of the USS Ludlow, a destroyer which took part in the Allied invasion of North Africa in 1942 and then saw duty against the Japanese.

The train was scheduled to leave at 11:30 Friday night for Montgomery, resuming a tour which already has touched 80 cities and will not end until next September.

More than 300 centers from coast to coast are on the entire itinerary.

Sunday the train will stop at Tuscaloosa, but a scheduled visit to Birmingham on Monday has been cancelled, Foundation President Thomas D'Arcy Brophy said, because Birmingham city officials "insist on arrangements which are clearly in violation of the policy of the foundation that no segregation of any individuals or groups of any kind be allowed on the Freedom Train."

The City of Jasper requested that the Birmingham visit be transferred there.

Mon

NEW YORK, Dec. 26. — (AP) — The American Heritage Foundation announced today that it was unable to route the Freedom Train carrying historic documents to Jasper, Ala.

Sat. 12-27-47

Jasper had asked that it be substituted for Birmingham, Ala., on the train's itinerary. The scheduled Birmingham stop Dec. 29 was cancelled because of the inability of city officials and the foundation to make arrangements in accord with the foundation policy that there be no racial segregation of those visiting the train.

Jasper Requests Visit From Freedom Train

cross-country tour was started in the Fall. It will arrive in Montgomery early Friday morning and leave Saturday night for Tuscaloosa where an exhibition will be held Sunday.

Courier

Tomorrow is Freedom Train Day:

At 10 o'clock Saturday morning the gates will be thrown open for general admission. By the time gates are closed at 10 p.m., a minimum of 10,000 people will have passed through the train to view the 131 historical documents and flags on display behind unbreakable glass show cases.

Fri 12-26-47

The train will be stopped on the Louisville and Nashville tracks at the foot of Molton Street. A special platform is being erected near the tracks for a short preliminary program.

Searcy To Preside

Presiding over the ceremonies will be Dr. Hubert Searcy, general chairman of the committees. At 8:45 a.m. he will make a short address and present Mayor L. Goodwyn, who will extend official welcome. Col. Robert Scott, in charge of the Marine

Atlanta Mayor Bans Jim Crow Of Races on the Freedom Train

Baltimore Afro-American
Mon 12-29-47

ATLANTA (ANP)—Mayor William B. Hartsfield declared last week that there will be no racial segregation in the Freedom Train exhibition here Jan. 2. Following a statement from the American Heritage Foundation which ordered the train to by-pass Memphis because its officials insisted on segregation, Mayor Hartsfield commented:

Sat 12-27-47

"In Atlanta the Freedom Train will be open at all times to all persons regardless of race or creed. The exhibits are those priceless documents guaranteeing the basic freedoms of the American people. I do not see how anybody can draw a color line through freedom and justice.

"So far as I am concerned, I am willing to stand beside any American citizen, regardless of race or creed, in mutual admiration and respect for those great historical charters of American freedom." The mayor has named colored leaders to serve on the Free-dom Train Committee.

Thousands Will See Historic Documents On Freedom Train

Atlanta American
22

JASPER, ALA., Dec. 25.—(AP)—The city of Jasper requested Sunday, that the Freedom Train's canceled Dec. 29 visit to Birmingham be transferred here.

J. T. Jackson, president of the city commission, said a telegram had been sent to the American Heritage Foundation, sponsors of the nation-wide tour, requesting that Jasper be added to the list of cities being visited by the train. advertiser

Thomas D'Arcy Brophy, president of the foundation, announced in New York yesterday that the Birmingham stop was cancelled because officials there "insist on arrangements which are clearly in violation of the policy of the foundation, that no segregation of any individuals or groups of any kind . . . be allowed on the Freedom Train." Montgomery Ad

Mayor Cooper Green of Birmingham said city officials there had proposed that separate lines of Negroes and whites visiting the train be maintained, with groups of 25 or more entering the train alternately from each line.

Jackson said the telegram sent to the foundation read:

"Since the Freedom Train will not stop in Birmingham, the city of Jasper invites the train to visit here. Will comply with all non-segregation rules."

Jasper is 40 miles northwest of Birmingham.

Jasper Awaiting Decision On Freedom Train Invitation

News (12) Birmingham, Ala. Fri. 12-26-47

Jasper waited today to learn if its offer to receive the Freedom Train Monday, with no segregation strings attached, will be accepted.

At an unusual Christmas morning meeting, officials and civic leaders of Jasper and Walker County wired the American Heritage Foundation to request Birmingham's former spot on the train's schedule. Fri. 12-26-47

Doubt was expressed in New York, however, that the transfer could be accomplished, due to "mechanical difficulties" involved in railroading. The Associated Press quoted Louis Novins, vice president of the foundation, as saying officials expected to meet later today to make a final decision.

The Jasper telegram, endorsed by members of the city and county commissions, Chambers of Commerce and civic clubs, promised "will comply with all non-segregation rules."

* * *

VISIT OF THE TRAIN to Birmingham was canceled Wednesday by Thomas D'Arcy Brophy, foundation president, because of the City Commission's plan to separate white and Negro citizens as they viewed the original documents of American freedom and liberties.

Birmingham commissioners held that they could not set aside the city's segregation laws for the train, while the foundation repeated its policy against segregation aboard the train. Fri. 12-26-47

The Birmingham plan, rejected by the foundation only five days before the scheduled visit here, would have admitted members of both races to the train in alternate groups of 25. News

THE JASPER INVITATION, signed by J. T. Jackson, president of the board of city commissioners:

"Since the Freedom Train will not stop in Birmingham, the city of Jasper invites the train to visit here. We serve a population of more than 100,000 within a radius of 25 miles. Birmingham

"Will comply with all non-segregation rules. This invitation is endorsed by the city commission, county commission, senior Chamber of Commerce, Junior Chamber of Commerce and our civic clubs.

"We are anxious to have the Freedom Train and are prepared to handle it. Jasper is 40 miles northwest of Birmingham."

Priceless Documents Draw 10,000 To Freedom Train

Times (22) New York, N.Y.

By HUGH MORRIS

Ten thousand people seems a responsive number.

That many people gathered, in 1861, to hear President Jefferson Davis proclaim to the world that the Confederacy was free and independent, had been persecuted but now would fight for her rights. Sun 12-28-47

That many people gathered, Saturday, to view the Freedom Train documents that made the United States of America free and independent, after dispelling persecution and winning all her rights.

Another historical coincidence: In December 1860, a special election was held, by order of Gov. A. B. Moore, to determine the "rights, interests and honor" of the State of Alabama. This election, forced by joint resolution of the legislature in case of Republican candidate opposed to slavery should be elected President, resulted in the Constitutional Convention which met on Jan. 4, 1861, and announced a vote for secession on Jan. 7.

For Three Hours

The people who stood in line to see the documents, some for as long as three hours, realized more fully than ever what a distinctive part the War Between The States had in uniting this country when they noticed that almost a third of the documents were devoted to that phase of American history.

They saw, in about 30 minutes, almost every important document which has accomplished a material gain in personal, political or religious freedoms in the last 730 years, from the Magna Carta which English barons forced King John to sign on June 15, 1215, to the Japanese surrender document, which brought about the close of World War 11 on Sept. 2, 1945.

Both white people and Negroes stood side by side to read for themselves the Emancipation Proclamation, penned in Lincoln's own scrawling hand. Two Negro girls were the first persons to be admitted when the train was opened at 10 a.m. for public inspection. Throughout the day, until closing time at 10 p.m., the one, continuous line which extended for blocks was filled with practically equal numbers of the two races.

Independence Declaration

The one document which drew most attention was the Declaration of Independence, in its various stages of formation, with delineations and additions made in the sure, steady handstrokes of its writers.

Another display which drew attention contained five flags. First in line was the subject of the most famous picture of World War II—the flag which was raised on the Suribachi atoll of Iwo Jima by five Marines. The 13-star flag which Commodore Perry flew from his ship when Japan was opened to the world in 1854 and which flew from the USS Missouri when the Japanese surrender documents were signed was on display. The SHEAF flag was shown as was Gen. Eisenhower's personal flag, a red bunting centered with five white stars.

Benjamin Franklin

Many visitors to the train were surprised to learn that Benjamin Franklin, generally thought of in connection with Poor Richard's Almanac and as a statesman, considered himself foremost as a printer and newspaperman. Several issues of the New England Courant, a paper which he owned and edited, were exhibited. Also shown was his own epitaph, written in 1728 when he bought the paper. It is the most famous of American epitaphs, humorously in the language of the trade:

The Body of
B. Franklin, Printer,
(Like the Cover of an old
Book Times
Its Contents torn out
And Stript of its Lettering and
Gilding) New York, N.Y.
Lies here, Food for Worms,
But the Work shall not be lost
For it will, (as he believ'd) appear once more,
Revised and Corrected
By the Author. Sun.

After his later famous acts, for which he is generally remembered, Franklin continued to consider himself a printer. His last will began: "I, Benjamin Franklin, Printer, later Minister Plenipotentiary from the United States of America to the Court of France, now President of Pennsylvania . . . 12-28-47

Resting inconspicuously in one of the fire-proof cases was the original manuscript of a song which will remain America's theme song eternal: "The Star Spangled Banner," by Sir Francis Scott Key. The first line was originally penned as "O, Say can you see through the dawn's early light . . . " Later, Scott struck out the word "through" and wrote in "by."

After an estimated 10,000 people had moved through the three exhibition cars, taking in as much as possible while hurrying on so that the next person could see just as much as he, the Freedom Train, a symbol of American Heriages from Columbus until the present day, moved on to fill another one-day appearance in Tuscaloosa today.

Two Races Mingle Amicably On Freedom Train In Mobile

News Birmingham, Ala. Sat. 12-27-47

The Freedom Train was open to white and Negro citizens alike in Montgomery today for its second, non-segregated exhibit in a large Alabama city.

Mayor John L. Goodwyn, who had announced earlier that racial segregation would not be an issue, led a group of city officials to welcome it.

Although Mobile has laws requiring segregation in buses, theaters and other public places, the mayor pointed out that both races stand in one line to "pay taxes, buy groceries and make bank deposits" and he could see no good reason for raising the segregation issue.

The Freedom Train finance committee for Montgomery presented a $2,500 check to representatives of the Heritage Foundation to assure continuation of the tour.

Meanwhile, Jasper city officials heard with disappointment that the train's sponsors are unable to make railroad arrangements for a stop in their town Monday.

The Walker County seat had promised there would be no racial segregation if Jasper were given Birmingham's original place on the train's itinerary.

In Mobile yesterday, where spectators from both races mingled in single file through the exhibit cars of historic American documents, Mayor Charles A. Baumhauer summed up the visit in these words:

"We never had a minute's trouble. Sat. 12-27-47

"We handled the visit of the Freedom Train in the same way that we handle the visit of a warship. We don't have segregation of visitors then."

* * *

AN ESTIMATED 8,000 citizens saw the original Bill of Rights, Constitution and more than 100 other documents during the Mobile stopover, where bands from schools of both races provided music and a Negro dentist, Dr. E. T. Belsaw, sat on the speakers platform.

The train will come closest to Birmingham Sunday when it opens at 10 a.m. in Tuscaloosa for a 12-hour stay. Chairman F. G. Hocutt has issued a general invitation to the public to inspect it.

The train will be parked on the Warrior Southern tracks on 16th Street between Queen City Avenue and Greensboro Avenue.

Members of the Tuscaloosa Pilot Club have invited the 42 members of the train's personnel to be dinner guests in their homes Sunday night.

* * *

THE TRAIN'S Birmingham stopover was canceled by the American Heritage Foundation, its sponsors, after city commissioners refused to allow members of the two races to inspect its display in a single, mixed line.

In a letter today, General Chairman Francis Falkenburg of the Birmingham Freedom Train committee, thanked members of his group who had prepared the observance here of Rededication Week and

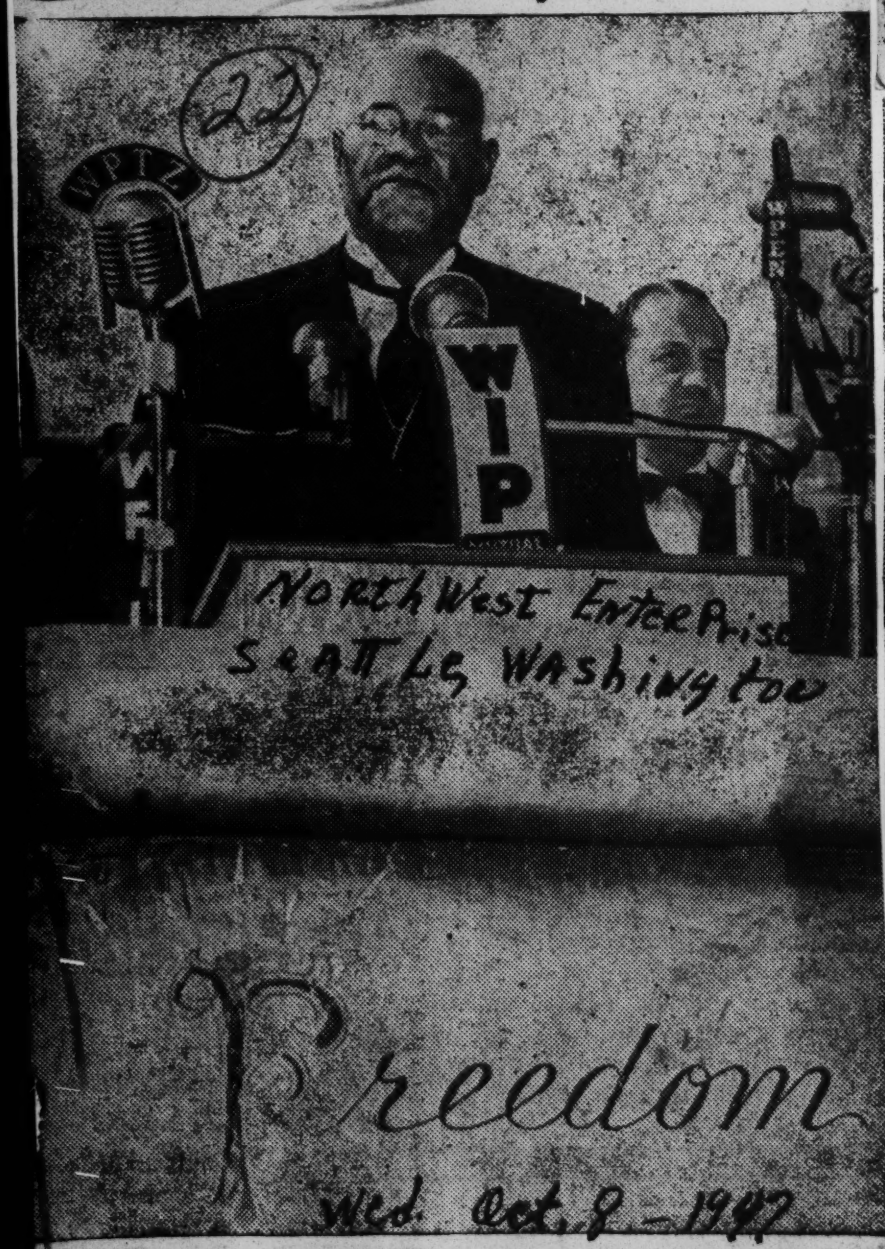
"It is regrettable that all of your efforts in connection with its (the train) visit are of no avail."

The tour, which has already included 80 cities, is scheduled to continue until next September.

We believe that the overwhelming mass of Americans in all sections of the country will support this position.

This stated policy of the American Heritage Foundation was made this week by Winthrop W. Aldrich, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, American Heritage Foundation.

FREEDOM TRAIN INVOCATION



Bishop Sherman L. Greene of the African Methodist Episcopal Church of Philadelphia delivering the invocation opening the ceremonies of inauguration of the Freedom Train prior to its departure on a 31,000-mile year-long tour of the nation.

Sponsored by the American Heritage Foundation, the Freedom Train will make a 31,000-mile tour bearing more than 100 priceless documents of U. S. history.

Following the official launching of Freedom Train from the "cradle of liberty," Bishop Greene, together with 150 other leaders of U. S. business, labor, educational, religious and civic organizations, attended a dedication dinner at the offices of the Curtis Publishing Company.

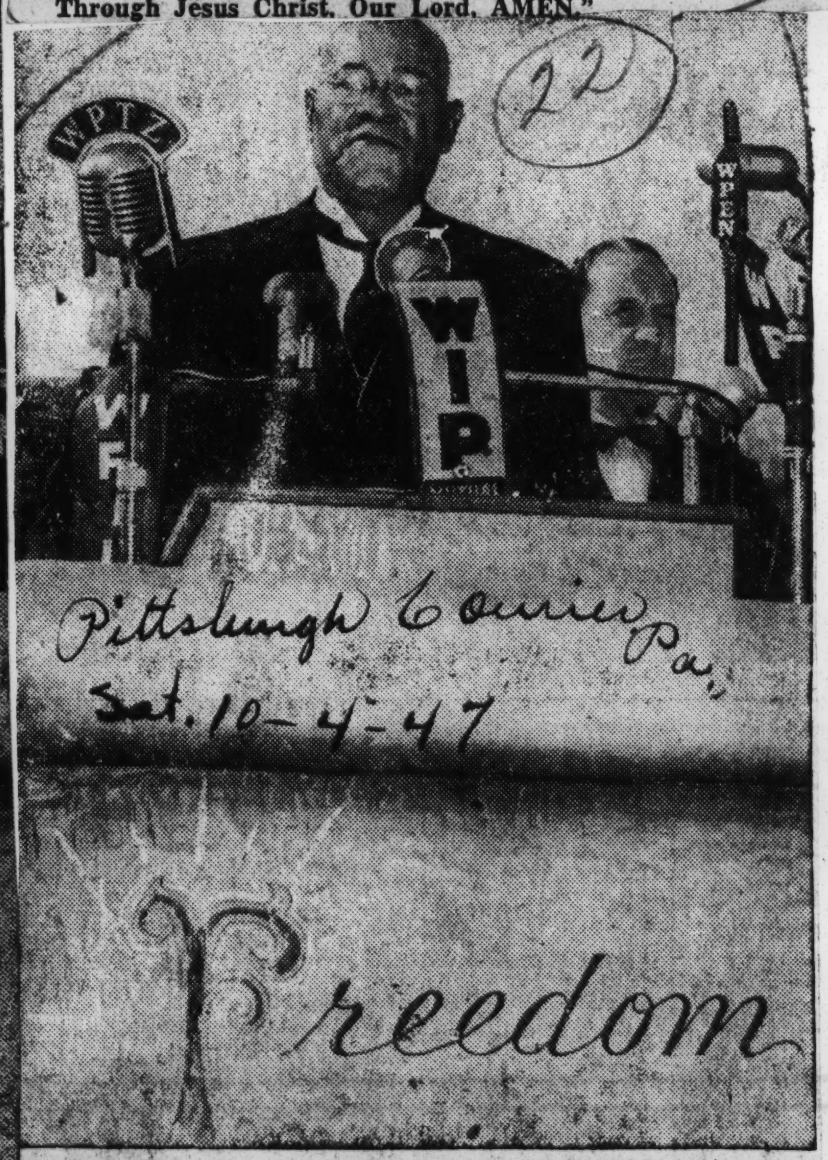
Bishop Greene's prayer follows:

"Oh, Lord! We thank Thee for this most historic and notable day in our civic progress, a day of freedom, redellication and re-discovery. This day, Our Heavenly Father, should mean much in the life and resolution of every true American, whatever his race, creed, station or circumstance.

We thank Thee for the philanthropic leaders of this tour. May their efforts not be in vain. In these trying hours of great temptation, we pray that Thou mayest go before the tour so that its motives are not defeated in any section of the land.

And finally, Oh Heavenly Father, by Thy gracious care, protect the lives of all men whose task shall be to direct this blessed train. May not a single mishap occur. . . .

Through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, AMEN."



FREEDOM TRAIN INVOCATION—Bishop Sherman L. Greene of the AME Church delivers the invocation at opening ceremonies inaugurating the year-long tour of the Freedom Train, beginning in Philadelphia last week.

Jennings Perry

All Aboard

The sponsors of Freedom Train now parading the blessed documentation of our national beginning through the land, have specially announced that Jim Crow will not be aboard. It need surprise none that the sponsors considered the announcement proper and wise. Without it the train would have risked embarrassment in some of the necks of our woods where the great postulates of liberty and equality are never taken literally.

Perry

Plainly it would not have done to have the train stop at least two days at every place—one day for the first-class citizens and one for the second-class citizens. The whole purpose of the exhibit is to remind our careless minds that our constitutional compact is still very much alive, any attempt at segregation along the way would have been offensive to the precious items in the plastic cases—and raw meat to those subversive spoilsports who (if earlier press accounts were to be believed) have plotted to hold the train up to ridicule.

By the same token the positive action of the sponsors in barring discrimination (which only the absolutely innocent will think to have been uncalled-for, and only the abjectly un-American will resent) itself serves to remind us that in many ways our reach yet exceeds our grasp, and that the effectuation of our constitutional aims still requires a deal of conscious striving.

The notice ties the present to the past; it has gone out as an advance warning that the yellowed papers we preserve in the archives are not dead letters, curios kept for antiquity, but the evergreen earnests of the creation of a form of government upon a political philosophy wildly radical in the 18th century—and essentially far from tame in this one.

There could be no happier product of the Freedom Train's ride than a general reawakening to the daring of our national adventure, a rebirth of the moral courage—and of the pride we have in the possession of it—of the

have put out their notice—for bet-
ter can happen for freedom than
that those who have it themselves
ever should take it for granted
where others are concerned.

John Temple Graves

Negroes And Freedom Train

"Look into the seeds of time
And say which grain will grow"

The Freedom Train isn't going to stop in Memphis. That is too bad for Memphis. Here's hoping other southern cities will not make themselves silly with interpretations against having white and colored Americans stand in line together to see the Emancipation Proclamation. The South needs understanding on its race problem, but outsiders could never be expected to understand an attitude like that. Nothing calls for or justifies segregation in the simple business of standing in line to see the treasures of the Freedom Train. No principle is served by those who make an application so untimely and extreme.

The Freedom Train stands for the great things we have together in this country. Its passage through the South should be a reminder of those things to both races, not an occasion for bitterness and bad feeling. If the rest of the country thinks it beyond enduring that Negro and white should be separated before the Emancipation Proclamation, the South's cue for once is to understand and be tolerant.

In the present-day urge of Negro leadership to obliterate all racial distinctions, some very proud and priceless things out of the Negro's past may be lost. Here's hoping the curators of the Negro history room at Hampton Institute are guilty of no such betrayals. The thought comes on listening again to what has recently come to be a favorite record. Called "The Psaltree" (pronounced "Peesle Tree"), it is a reproduction of the "true Negro dialect of the time of Uncle Remus" as the author and narrator, Holman Willis, prominent attorney of Roanoke, Va., remembers it from his childhood on a Virginia plantation. "Of course no one will ever do the job of preserving this dialect as closely as it could be written but I find few people now who can read Uncle Remus intelligently," Mr. Willis says, "and fewer still who read it sympathetically. Perhaps in 25 years no one will be left alive who was raised as I was among Negroes of whom practically all the older ones were born in slavery..."

Mr. Willis has made wonderful entertainment as well as history of his "Psaltree" record. It is good to know that he is planning others and that a company, the Dialects Record company, of Roanoke, has been organized to distribute them. This record purports to be a sermon, with the Negro preacher opening the Good Book at random for a text, as was the custom, and finding the word "Psaltry" beyond his pronunciation and ken but not beyond his imagination. Listening, you know again of qualities in which the race is not equal but superior. The eloquence and music of the words, the easy improvisation, the dramatic fancy, rich vocal tones, have no counterparts in any other race.

A box of Oregon apples has just come to me from the late Dr. James E. Shepard, president of the North Carolina College for Negroes. He ordered them a few weeks before he died. Since I would be writing to thank him now if he were alive, I salute his great soul. He believed in the things white and black have in common, especially those on the Freedom Train.

CALLS FREEDOM TRAIN A SYMBOL OF LIBERTY

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27 (AP)—American historical documents aboard the Freedom Train are a "beacon of hope to the world," Speaker Martin of the House declared today at a special ceremony held at Union Station.

Several thousand men, women and children were up early on Thanksgiving Day to stand shivering in line for a chance to go through the red, white and blue streamlined train, which is here for a two-day stop on its 33,000-mile journey throughout the United States.

President Truman and his Cabinet will visit the train tomorrow.

"It is fitting that this Freedom Train, with its exhibit of priceless documents which comprise the records of how the foundation of Americanism and free government were laid should be in the capital of this nation on this, our day of national thanksgiving," said Mr. Martin.

In a voice broadcast throughout the huge station, Mr. Martin said:

"No people in the world have ever made such progress in free government and individual liberty as has been made in America in one and three-quarter centuries since the founding fathers wrote these epochal documents."

Mr. Martin told his audience that "in 5,000 years the Orient has failed to reach the richness, to acquire the tremendous productive capacity we have."

"In Europe the same is true," he added.

He described the Freedom Train as "a symbol of our liberty and our richness of life, but not a boast of power."

"We must stand as a united people to stop the march of despotism across the world," Mr. Martin declared. "Any aggressive doctrine which would enslave the world must be destroyed, or else free men must fight against it until they die. Death is preferred to human enslavement."

Hartsfield Says No Jim Crow On Freedom Train Exhibit Here

There will be no racial segregation in the Freedom Train exhibition to be held here Jan. 2, Mayor Hartsfield declared Wednesday.

Following a statement from the American Heritage Foundation officials which ordered the train to avoid Memphis because its city officials insisted on segregation, the Mayor commented:

"In Atlanta the Freedom Train will be open at all times to all persons regardless of race or creed.

"The exhibits on the Freedom Train are those priceless documents guaranteeing the basic freedoms of the American people. I do not see how anybody can draw a color line through freedom and justice.

"So far as I am concerned, I am willing to stand beside any American citizen, regardless of race or creed, in mutual admiration and respect for those great historical charters of American freedom."

WHAT KIND OF TRAIN?

Freedom or Jim Crow, Leaders Want to Know

NEW YORK CITY (ANP) — Freedom Train, which is sponsored by the American Heritage Foundation as part of a nationwide drive to educate for the American way of life, has come in for biting criticism by Lester Granger of the National Urban League, Langston Hughes and the editors of Our Week magazine.

When asked about taking the train South, editors of Our World were told that the foundation had "no responsibility for local mores." John P. Davis, publisher, said such a policy meant separate "colored" and "white" days, which makes it a "jim crow train, not a Freedom Train."

To Carry 100 Documents

The train will carry 100 historic documents which will include the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution with the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments, the Emancipation Proclamation, the German surrender document, the Hirohito rescript, and the Declaration of the United Nations.

"It is important to make Freedom Train a reality, and not a laughing stock," said Mr. Davis in announcing that the centerfold of October Our World will feature a poem by Langston Hughes challenging the train trek policy.

"Lord, way down in Dixie, only trains I see
Got jim crow coaches set aside for me.
I hope there's no jim crow on the Freedom Train,
No back door entrance to the Freedom Train."

Spirit Will Be Lost

In spite of the air-conditioning, cellophane covers, fire-proof paint, and 27 Marine guards, if the Foundation permits segregation in the South on the train, the most precious part of the documents, the "spirit," will be lost, said Mr. Davis.

"As to whether or not Freedom Train would bow to the Southern patterns," an executive said, "the policy of handling visitors is waiting on experience. After the Philadelphia inauguration of the train, Sept. 12, a clear statement may be expected."

He urged that there were many details which waited developments and asserted that the foundation was aware of the question which had been raised and expressed the opinion that since the foundation as a whole was sensitive to its over-all purposes there need be no concern.

NEGRO, 109, DIES IN COLUMBUS

Constitution State News Service.

COLUMBUS, Jan. 2 — A 109-year-old Negro woman, Fannie Pace, died in Columbus recently, Coroner Hardie C. Edenfield reported Thursday.

The Coroner said the family Bible and other records confirmed her birth April 11, 1837, in Talbot County.

UNCLE SLAUGHTER, COLORED, CELEBRATES 100TH BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY

Uncle Slaughter, the oldest colored citizen of the town, celebrated his 100th birthday March 15th. Uncle Slaughter's family think he is over 100 but do not know just how much so they claim it the 100th. He was born in Greensboro, Ga., and came to Bridgeport seventy years ago and has been here all the time since. Uncle Slaughter says he has never worn glasses and can now see well enough to thread a needle. He has been active up until about two years ago in his garden, and his desire now is to get out and dig. Now he sits around and talks about the things he did as a boy. He says he has lived so long because he has always been temperate in all things and lived close to God. He lives with his daughter and numbers of friends of both races called to wish him many more returns of the day.

DIES AT 103

SELMA, Ala. — Mrs. Josephine King, born in Wilcox County on January 4, 1844 died February 12, 1947 at 2 p.m. at the age of 103.

She left behind three daughters, six grand children, sixteen great grand children, fifteen great, great grand children, six nieces, and five nephews.

A Chapter in Negro History

In common cause of Greek liberty!

THAT our Negro ancestors were internationally-minded as early as 1827 is one of the extraordinary facts of history. In March of that year—and Negroes themselves were not emancipated in New York until July fourth—they held a ball to raise funds for the cause of Greek liberty. The Worker

ladies were dressed in all the gaiety that New York can boast. The company broke up about 6 o'clock in the morning." New York, N.Y.

Editorial comment somewhat disapproved of so much effort for a foreign cause "while thousands of our own brethren must linger out a life of hopeless bondage in comparison to which Turkish despotism is nothing." It is admitted that the affair was brilliant and successful, however, and elsewhere in the paper are references to innumerable abolition activities of Negroes. One of these refers to the boycott of slave products.

Items on Turkey and Greece continue to appear in the paper throughout the year.

The Worker

LORD BYRON, who fought with the Greek people in their wars for independence.

In the third issue of Freedom's Journal, the first Negro newspaper ever published, the following account appears:

"GRECIAN BALL.—Our black population are uniting in the common cause of Greek liberty. An "African Grecian Ball" took place in New York on Thursday evening the 6th inst. Tickets were sold for three dollars admitting a gentleman and two ladies. Upwards of 600 gentlemen and ladies of color were present, dancing quadrilles to an excellent colored band of musicians. The

Is He a Citizen?

Editor Constitution: In the rushing of San Juan Hill, it was the Negro who went up singing "Please don't let me fall!" It was a Negro who planted the Stars and Stripes on the blockhouse in the Cuban campaign; during the bombing of Pearl Harbor a colored soldier was credited with the saving of many lives and much property.

Is he a citizen? Will the Government protect his rights as granted by the 15th Amendment to the Constitution? If the amendment were removed from the Constitution, perhaps the Negro could forget . . . as our leaders seem to have forgotten. But as long as it stands where he can read it, simply written so all can understand, why should he not wonder and worry?

Now if Almighty God could create all mankind from one flesh and one blood, and consider differences no more, who are the lawmakers to set themselves up to say who shall have and who shall not have?

Lucifer was cast down for saying "I am wiser than God." Why not Georgia?

God's way leads to peace. . . . Man's way to destruction.

DEACON JOHN R. JOHNSON.

Atlanta

Abdomen Baby

The patient, a pregnant, 29-year-old Negro woman, had complained for months of severe pains in her abdomen. One day last week, as she approached full term, the pains got worse. In the osteopathic unit of Los Angeles County General Hospital, doctors X-rayed her, found to their astonishment that the uterus was only slightly enlarged. The baby was not there; it was thrashing about in the abdomen, its head under the liver and the rest of its body lodged against the stomach and intestines.

An abdominal pregnancy, especially one that proceeds to full term, is extremely rare, and almost invariably fatal to the baby. As the doctors wheeled the patient into the hospital's largest amphitheater to operate, word spread quickly; surgeons jammed in to watch the operation, set up a camera to record it in color movies.

Dr. Edward Abbott, assisted by Dr. Charles Mount, made a six-inch midline incision in the abdomen. The patient bled profusely (she got almost eight pints of blood in transfusions). The doctors cut the fetal sac, seized the infant, pulled out a wailing baby girl. Weight: 6 lbs. 6 oz. Condition of mother & daughter at week's end: excellent.

* Abdominal pregnancy results from a freakish failure of the fertilized egg to pass through a Fallopian tube to the uterus. The placenta attaches itself, like a parasite, to abdominal organs or membranes. The pregnancy is painful because the placenta irritates the tissues and the baby kicks the nerve-rich peritoneum (abdominal lining). When they discover the condition, doctors usually operate at once.

By H. G. TROTTER.
Observer News Editor.

Until last Tuesday morning Will Vaughn was just another Negro tenant farmer with a big family living the usual life of a tenant in rural Mecklenburg county . . . Then it happened!

Will's 400-pound Berkshire and Poland China sow had her first litter and in this litter of 12 piglets was one little fellow who may win fame for himself and fortune for his owner. For this little pig was born with four eyes, two snouts, and two mouths.

When Will first set eyes on him he was rooting along with his brothers and sisters, trying to nurse, and he was grunting like all get out.

WILL PICKED HIM up and looked him over. There were two eyes, one on each side of the extraordinarily wide skull, two eyes in the middle of his forehead and two snouts protruding at right angles below this center eye. He was strong and appeared healthy. Pig in arms Will headed for the house.

At the house piggy went into a pasteboard box and one of the Vaughn children ran for the store up the road to get some milk. In two hours Will had become a Hickory Grove celebrity. By nightfall people were driving out to the Vaughn home, a stone's throw from White's store at Hickory Grove, to see the reported "two headed pig."

By yesterday Will had decided he might have something of tremendous value. Piggy was drinking two ounces of condensed milk every three hours and Will and his missus were taking turns feeding him. The children were forbidden to touch him. "When he nurses out of one mouth," Will said, "he makes a noise out of the other'n, just like he's nursing. So we feed him in one mouth a while and then in the other'n. I reckon we could feed him in both mouths at the same time if we had two bottles and he would keep still."

WILL WAS SITTING on his front porch shaving when I drove up. The pig was in his little box out in the sunshine. Will had his shaving mirror propped up on a barber chair. "I'll be through shaving in a minute," Will said. "If you want to see the pig he is right there in that box.' I looked in the box and there was the pig, standing up straight and moving his head around. "Hear him grunt?" Will asked. "He's a pig all right and he is just as big as the rest of 'em, and he eats good too.

Will finished shaving, wiped his straight razor clean with a towel and began to talk about the pig. He picked him up and the pig squealed frantically and squirmed. Will nearly dropped him. Will's missus called from the porch, "Now, Will don't handle him too much," and then added pridefully, "Ain't he the frisk-

"He always walks in circles." Will and the reporter discussed over the eye, which had lashes and these and the pig back in the box Will moved from time to time but the was willing to discuss its future. "I eye appeared sightless. The two don't aim to sell him right now," he eyes in normal position in relation said. "I want to raise him. He might to the skull were bright and the keep me some day if I keep him. pig kept turning his head looking The vet said feed him every three at his new public first from the left hours all he will drink, keep him eye and then from the right. cool, and not handle him too much. Will got back to his pig's probable He's the first two headed pig I ever future

"A veterinary is coming out to see heard of. I have heard of two head- him tomorrow. Everybody who's ed calves, but they always seem to die right off. Now this pig seems been out here thinks he is a curiosstronger today than he was yester- ity. I can't watch him tomorrow, for day. Maybe he'll make it. First off I work in a barbershop on Fridays that big center eye looked like two and Saturdays in town, but the rest little round eyes, now they are al- of them here will take care of him. most run together."

From what everybody says soon as Will was able to keep the bottle in one mouth long enough for a picture. Then he set the pig on the ground and piggy walked in circles. "He's trying to decide which eye to look at you with," said this proud pig fancier.

Four-Eyed, Two-Mouthed Pig May Live To Win His Fortune

Charlotte, N. C. Observer Fri 5-16-47

22

HEY, WHERE'S THE OTHER BOTTLE?—Will Vaughn, Hickory Grove farmer, feeds his freak pig—it's left mouth from a child's milk bottle, but piggy's right mouth goes empty. The pig, born Tuesday in a litter of 12, is healthy and normal—except that it has two snouts, two mouths, and four eyes. The inset is a closeup of Master Piggy. What looks like a single eye in the middle of the head is in reality two eyes, separated by a film. The left eye and the two snouts are clearly discernible. (Observer Staff photo —Trotter.)

word gets around somebody might want him for a carnival."

Somebody said, "You might let some scientific society have him for study."

"Give him away to nobody," Will said. "I aim to raise that pig."

"Why don't you charge people to look at him now?" someone asked. "Charge everybody a quarter to see him."

"I think we'll start that tomorrow. That's a good idea. Come back tomorrow and look at him and bring a quarter."

AUTO FOR A BUCK—Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Whiting of 213 W. 22nd St., Richmond, are shown with auto that cost them just $1, in a chance contest. Couple, neither of whom can drive, have been married 30 months. Sat. 6-28-47

Siamese twins born to Negro mother

Sat. 7-19-47

Los Angeles, Calif. Tribune

NASHVILLE — A 26-year-old Negro woman, whose name is withheld, gave birth to Siamese twins here last week. One of the infants was still-born. The other has a slim chance for survival.

The babies were attached from hip to shoulder. Sat. 7-19-47

County's First Legally Wed Negro Woman Dies

Pittsburgh Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

22

DILLSBORO, N. C.—(ANP)—Death by stroke ended the active life of Mrs. Lucinda Love, 101-year-old native resident of the Tuckaeigee region, July 20. Until she suffered the stroke two days before her death, she had done much of her own housework. Sat. 8-2-47

Her marriage to Joe Marion Love was said to be the first recorded wedding of Negroes in Jackson County.

She is survived by four children, seven grandchildren, twenty-six great-grandchildren and forty great-great-grandchildren.

bers five wars; the two world wars, the war with Spain in 1898, the Civil War of 1861-5 and the Mexican war of 1846-48. If she does remember the latter war, her age would be well over 100 years. Residents now in their 80's recall that the aged woman was "full grown" when they first remember her.

With the exception of a few months spent in Abbeville count around 1864 as nurse to the late Frances Brooks Meyers, she has never been out of the country.

In the absence of vital statistics falling, one writer says she remem-

on the birthday of "Aunt Martha," here is considerable speculation as to her exact age. Presently, she is living with her daughter, Mrs. Tilda Choice, now in her 80's, and her grandson, Will Choice, who is 61. As far back as 1862, however, she "was old enough to be a nurse." If she were only 10 at that time, she would now be 98.

GREENVILLE, S. C.—(ANPA)—"Aunt Martha" Carr of the Marietta section in Greenville county, appears to be the answer to the Greenville Civitan club's search for the resident who has lived in this county continuously for the greatest number of years.

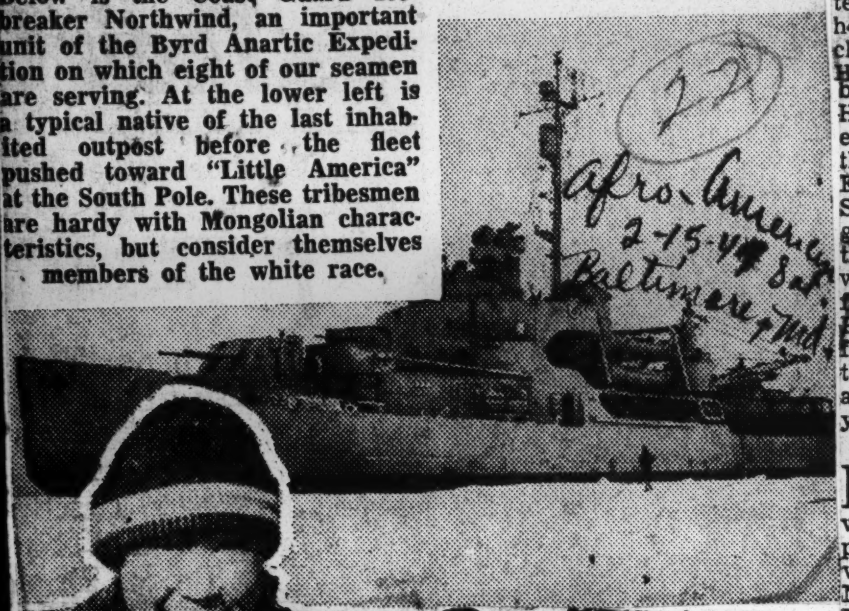
Search for Oldest Citizen Ends With "Aunt Martha" Carr

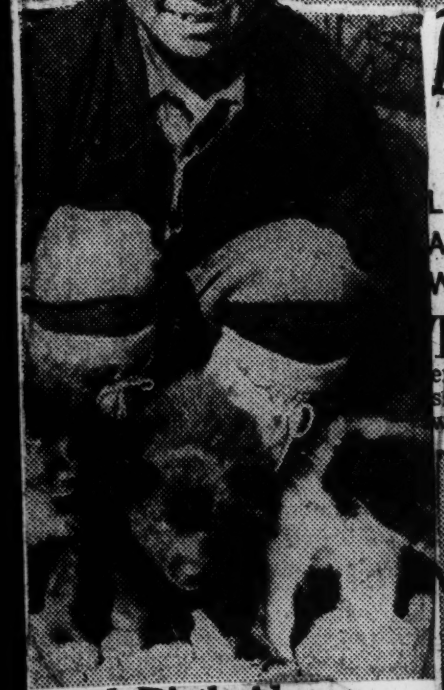
Atlanta Daily World

Atlanta, Ga. Thurs. 8-14-47

Down at the Bottom of the World

Below is the Coast Guard Icebreaker Northwind, an important unit of the Byrd Anartic Expedition on which eight of our seamen are serving. At the lower left is a typical native of the last inhabited outpost before the fleet pushed toward "Little America" at the South Pole. These tribesmen are hardy with Mongolian characteristics, but consider themselves members of the white race.





Freak Birth Alarms Medics in Jamaica

KINGSTON, JAMAICA, BWI —Birth of a baby here recently, described as "half human, half animal," in the Jubilee Maternity Hospital, threw the medical and nursing staffs into a bustle of curiosity and consternation. The child cried, breathed and lived like all normal ones do.

The head, neck, torso and arms are those of a normal child, but the lower portion from the waist down— thighs, hips, legs, everything—are that of a young pig complete with tail.

Dustin' off the NEWS

By LUCIUS C. HARPER

LIKE GEORGIA'S TIE-UP A NEGRO ONCE WON AS GOVERNOR.

THE interesting, if not comical, fight now going on for the governorship of Georgia recalls many similar contests that have been waged by rival claimants for state rulership down through the annals of American political history. Most writers thus far commenting on such turmoils have listed 10 states that underwent such bitter and galeling experiences. How they managed to overlook the eleventh incident — that of Louisiana in 1872—is a puzzle to this writer. Probably it was because a Negro was the main factor in this controversy that finally reached the White House for adjustment.

Lucius Harper

He was elevated to the governorship of Louisiana almost under similar conditions that now prevail in Georgia. He was sworn in by a legislative assembly. Political disagreement, rather than a death, brought him at the helm of the government. He was Pinckney Benton Stewart Pinchback, one of the most illustrious political figures this nation and our race has ever produced. He began life as a bootblack, then a cabin-boy on a river boat on the Mississippi, and entered politics in New Orleans where he arose to lead his party. He was chosen by his state to serve in both Houses of our national Congress, but was refused a seat in both the House and Senate. He was appointed Commissioner of Louisiana to the Vienna Exposition and visited England, France, Italy, Austria and Switzerland in the interest of his government. He helped to draft the constitution of Louisiana. He was appointed surveyor of customs for the port of New Orleans by President Chester A. Arthur. In fact, he held more political offices than any single Negro, before or after his time. He became a lawyer after he left politics.

IN 1872 WHEN U. S. Grant and Henry Wilson of Massachusetts were nominated to run on the Republican ticket for president and vice president, Horace Greeley of New York and B. Gratz Brown of Missouri were chosen for like offices by the Democrats, Louisiana was in the process of a political upheaval. There were five State tickets in the field: the first, the "Last Ditch" Democratic ticket, the second, the Custom-House-Grant Republicans, headed by C. C. Antoine, a Negro; the third, Pinchback Republican, headed by P. B. S. Pinchback; the fourth, the Liberal Republicans, and the Reform Party. This situation was finally untangled, and a Fusion ticket was put in the field to effect a compromise. However, it later led to much confusion, like the present Georgia situation, and Pinchback found himself elected Governor of Louisiana by the state assembly.

Henry Clay Warmoth, a white man, was in the governor's chair when this came about. He was allied with the Greeley-Brown forces, the "Last Ditchers" and Liberal Republicans. He backed a Col. John McEnery for Governor, while Pinchback, serving with him as Lieutenant - Governor, was with W. P. Kellog, a white man, and C. C. Antoine, a Negro, allied with the Grant-Wilson presidential ticket. But Governor Warmoth was head of the powerful Returning Board that counted the ballots after the election returns were in. This gave him quite an advantage. The Grant-Wilson forces seemed to have lost the election according to Warmoth's board, and Colonel McEnery seemed to have won as governor, a thing purely distasteful to the Kellog - Antoine - Pinchback forces. Something had to be done to save the state for President Grant, so Kellog and Antoine went before Judge E. H. Durell of the U. S. Circuit Court with a petition to declare Warmoth's Returning Board fraudulent.

Judge Durell issued an order throwing out Warmoth's canvass of votes, and recognizing Kellog's. He issued an order to forbid men elected on the Warmoth ticket to assemble as legislators. At the same time the Kellog-Antoine-Pinchback —, the Grant backers—were recognized as the duly elected legislators. They assembled and went into action. First they impeached Governor Warmoth, after the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of state had organized the Senate into a court of impeachment, and Associate Justice Talliaferro shortly after administered the oath of office to Lt.-Gov. P. B. S. Pinchback, making him Acting Governor until another election could be held. However, Warmoth called his legislators together in the City Hall, and sought to recognize and do state business with "governor-elect" McEnery. Pinchback and his legislators were assembled in Mechanic Institute, the recognized state body. Louisiana, in fact, had three governors on its hands: Warmoth, in the chair; McEnery, elected, and Pinchback, serving as acting governor, through "impeachment" of Warmoth.

THE WIRES burned hot from New Orleans to Washington. Pinchback telegraphed President Grant, and his Attorney General George H. Williams that he was ruling affairs in Louisiana, but needed help from federal sources. Warmoth also notified the President that Pinchback was wrongfully seated, and that he was leaving for Washington with a hundred citizens to place the real issue before him, and to ask for the unseating of the Pinchback crowd. The Pinchback supporters won over this. Should any uprising occur, troops were held in the armory under Colonel Emery upon word from President Grant. Finally this letter came to settle matters for Acting Governor Pinchback: "Let it be understood that you are recognized by the President as the lawful executive of Louisiana, and that the body assembled at Mechanics' Institute is the lawful Legislature of the State, and it is suggested that you make proclamation to that effect, and also that all necessary assistance will be given to you and the Legislature herein recognized to protect the State from disorder and violence." It was signed by George H. Williams, Attorney General of the United States. So a Negro, P. B. S. Pinchback, from that day, Dec. 12, 1872, served for many months as Acting Governor of Louisiana, until the matter was finally adjusted by a U. S. Senate Investigating Committee, which finally put Col. John McEnery in the governor's chair. Funny, isn't it, how American history, political or otherwise can't dodge the Negro?

Ex-Slave Says He May Be 127;

BATON ROUGE 'FIRSTS'—Mrs. Andrew Smart of 453 East Grant Street, Baton Rouge, La., cuddles her fine one-month-old triplets, Andrew, Albert and Alfred, reportedly the first male triplets in Louisiana's capital city.

Cut Teeth At 80

Carrollton, Ala., Oct. 23 (U.P.)—Alfred Crimm, Pickens County Negro, doesn't know how old he is, but said his "white folks" told him he is 127.

He was a slave before the War Between the States. He recently broke into the news when a doctor was called for him for the first time in his life.

Crimm has a 78-year-old son. At the age of 80, Crimm cut three new teeth. Several years ago his eyesight became dim. Recently his sight returned. He threw away his glasses and said he could see as well as he could in his youth.

Quads Born In Louisiana

NATCHITOCHES, La.—Another of the few sets of quadruplets born in the nation weighed in here last week at the local hospital, when Mrs. Rosa Mae Phanor gave birth to four infants, all girls. One died shortly after birth, but the other three survived and are doing well. The babies weighed about three pounds each at birth. Their father is Eugene Phanor.

History 22 Chicago Defender

BLANCHE K. BRUCE, a colored man, was U. S. Senator from Mississippi, 1875 to 1881 in "Reconstruction" years. He was Senator Bilbo's predecessor, this being the same seat Bilbo currently seeks to regain. In addition to differences of race and color and the 54 years separating their terms of office, there was another difference between these two Mississippi Senators.

Bilbo says for example: "I'm calling on every red-blooded American to get out and see that no nigger votes."

Bruce said however: "If it can be shown that we have used the ballot either to abridge the rights of our fellow citizens or oppress them . . . we may be rightly charged with incapacity, dishonesty, or tyranny. But the corrective is in the hands of the people, and not of the favored class, the remedy is in the honest exercise of the ballot and not in fraud and violence." 2-15-47

Both of these statements were made on the floor of the U. S. Senate. Incidentally, Bruce's fellow Senator was white, James Alcorn. He refused to accompany Bruce to the desk to be sworn in as was customary, but Senator Roscoe Conklin of New York sprang to Bruce's side and walked up with him. Bruce named his first son Roscoe Conklin Bruce. Ill.

There was also another colored man who became a Senator from Mississippi to fill an unexpired term, Hiram Rhodes Revels, from Feb. 23, 1870 to March 3, 1871. He later became president of Alcorn college in Rodney, Miss.

Chicago Honors Defender Jean DuSable

Cites Pioneers' Aid To American Cause

Chicago Illinois

Chicago honored the memory of Jean Baptiste Pointe DuSable Tuesday noon when John H. Sengstacke, Chicago Defender publisher; Robert Collyer Fergus, representing Mayor Edward J. Kelly, and Mrs. Alice J. Neal, representing Mrs. Annie E. Oliver, president and founder of the National DuSable Memorial society, participated in ceremonies at the site of DuSable's trading post.

The ceremony also marked the 158th anniversary of the Battle of Vincennes, turning point in the Revolutionary war. The Negro pioneer is credited with playing a major role in the winning of that decisive engagement. 3-8-47

A wreath, inscribed "DuSable, Liberator, 1779," was placed on the DuSable plaque located on the north bank of the Chicago River, opposite the Wrigley building.

Fergus, a trustee of the Chicago Historical Society, read a statement as official representative of Mayor Kelly. Mrs. Alice J. Neal, also paid tribute to DuSable.

Commenting on DuSable's contributions to American history, Sengstacke said, "It is significant that DuSable rendered services of the greatest magnitude, based entirely upon love of country without regard for race, color or creed.

"As history points out, the Revolutionary war hinged on the battle of Vincennes. Without this significant victory, in which DuSable played a vital part, the freedom of this country might not have been won. Sat. 3-8-47

"It is also significant," Sengstacke added, "that a Chicagoan was the man who aided the cause of liberty. May the foundation of freedom here in this city remain firm so that Chicago will always be in the vanguard of democracy."

Long thought to be a log cabin, DuSable's historic trading post has been revealed, by documents uncovered, to be a well-stocked post of several buildings doing a thriving business with trappers, Indians and explorers. Chicago Defender

The battle of Vincennes, in which the forces of George Rogers Clark captured the British General Henry Hamilton, and secured the Mississippi Valley for the American cause, is considered by some historians to be the turning point in the Revolutionary war.

Shortly before the amazing victory at Vincennes, Clark who was leading a detachment of 200 Virginia volunteers, sent a despairing report to Gov. Patrick Henry. "Being sensible," he wrote, "without reinforcement which at present I have hardly a right to expect, I shall be obliged to give up this country to Mr. Hamilton, without a turn of fortune in my favor."

The turn in his favor was supplied by DuSable, a French mulatto, who used his influence with the Illinois Indians and won them over from the British cause. Thus deprived of his strongest allies, and his chief source of supply, Hamilton was no longer a match for the hardy colonials.

W. E. B. DuBois Finds The Inventor

Defender & Chicago Ill.

THE SCIENTIFIC MONTHLY has recently published a new statement and estimate of the Negro scientist, Norbert Rillieux. Rillieux was a quadroon, born in New Orleans March 1, 1806, and baptized in St. Louis Cathedral. His father was an engineer and inventor and operated a cotton baling press on Poydras st. Norbert was sent to Paris for his education. He showed rare ability, and at the age of 24 was an instructor in applied mechanics at L'Ecole Centrale in Paris. In 1830, he published papers on steam engine work and steam economy. In 1812, a man named Howard invented a vacuum-pan for boiling sugar solutions. Effort was immediately made to extend this invention, and Rillieux's invention came as an improvement upon Howard's. He enclosed condensing coils in a vacuum chamber and employed the vapor from the first chamber for evaporating the juice in a second chamber under higher vacuum, and thus "laid the foundation for all modern industrial evaporation."

Sat. 10-25-47

For 20 years he tried to interest French manufacturers, but finally was called to New Orleans to be chief engineer of a sugar refinery.

The First Sugar Evaporator

IN 1834, the first practical evaporator was built but failed on account of the financial crisis of 1837. In 1843, Rillieux again installed an evaporator which operated with complete success in 1845, and this was the first factory-scale multiple effect vacuum evaporator. A patent was taken out in 1846 (United States 4879) and thus the machine is officially described:

"A series of vacuum pans, or partial vacuum pans, have been so combined together as to make use of the vapor of the evaporation of the juice in the first, to heat the juice in the second and the vapor from this to heat the juice in the third, which latter is in connection with a condenser, the degree of pressure in each successive one being less . . . The number of sirup-pans may be increased or decreased at pleasure so long as the last of the series in conjunction with the condenser." The manufacture and refining of sugar was thus revolutionized. The new system in 1846 was established in other factories and prizes were awarded. Defender Chicago Ill.

The Color Line Sat. 10-25-47

RILLIEUX, WHILE PROSPEROUS and popular, suffered many difficulties on account of his color and eventually, because of the attempt to reduce all persons of Negro blood practically to slavery just before the Civil War, he left Louisiana and went back to France. He was living there in 1861. In France he gave up his interest in sugar machinery and took up the study of Egyptology — deciphering hieroglyphics at the Bibliotheque Nationale. He died Oct. 8, 1894, and was buried in Pere la Chaise.

Woman, 106, credits longevity to minding her own business

Los Angeles Calif. Examiner 12-11-47 Tribune.

TUCKERMAN, Ark.—This vicinity's eldest citizen is Mrs. Mary Ann Harper, affectionately known as "Mother Mollie", who lives alone at the age of 106. 22

Tribune, Calif.

Mother Mollie's vision is unimpaired, she walks without assistance, and attributes her long life to "eating moderately, freedom from worry, trust in God and minding my own business." Of course, heredity might have something to do with it; her father lived to be 110. Sat. 11-8-47

There are five generations of the Harpers living, the youngest, a great, great grandchild is 10-months-old. Sat.

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat 12-27-47

TRIPLETS CELEBRATE — Triplets Ann, Sterling and Mary Barnes celebrated their first birthday at a party hosted by Dr. Maurice H. Kowan at his offices on Beverly Boulevard in Los Angeles. The youngsters are pictured with nurse Dottie Waters, Mrs. Anderson Barnes, their mother and the host. Dr. Kowan is the family physician and delivered the trio.—McLain Photo.

ROGERS SAYS:

There Is Close Parallel Between Problems of Negro And Southern White Woman

By J. A. ROGERS

The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors

DAVIL ALMAN, author of the much-discussed novel, "The Hour-Glass," who has been studying the race question in the South, thinks that the oppressor of the Negro is also that of the white woman and that those white women who are free from color prejudice as well as those less blinded by "race" are awaking more and more to this fact.

Mr. Rogers

In an article, "The Common Cause of the Southern Negro and the Southern White Woman," in the July-September issue of "Trends and Tides," published by Louis Adamic, Milford, N. J., he says, "In conversations with Southern white women who were not at all involved in championing the cause of equality, I often heard remarks, when their men-folk were not within hearing distance, like these, 'Sometimes I think he treats me like a n...r.' 'Why, I'm no better off than a n...r, myself'." And so on.

HE ADDS THAT many Southern whites, men and women, sense a parallelism between the Negro and the white woman, an identity of interest, a common status. While the white woman is also infected with jim-crow doctrine and practice against Negroes, participating actively in lynching and other brutalities, it is true, too, that her position has given rise to a significant number of Southern white women who see in jim crow the dark face of the tyrant common to both.

"Prejudice against the Negro spills over into prejudice against the white woman. In the last analysis the white woman's concern for her freedom and dignity leads her to accept the equality of the Negro. The acceptance is not clear, not always pronounced; it is a highly complex relationship that is hardly ever voluntary at first, but out of such beginnings history is made."

* * *

HE GOES ON to show how in the past the repression of the white woman and the Negro marched together. The Nineteenth Amendment, giving the vote to women, for instance, had its greatest opposition in the South. Certain States even rejected it outright.

This is sociologically correct, not only in the South, but in almost every part of the earth. Women were the first slaves, it mattered not what their color was. This was true even in lands where the ruler was a woman as in the Candaces of ancient Ethiopia.

The wedding ring and the word "obey" are relics of the time when women were men's property. Under Islam the woman had to wear a veil or be cooped in a harem. This veil now serves as a sexual jim crow for women regardless of color.

When King Amanuallah of Afghanistan tried some years to free the women of his country by taking off their veils, he had a tougher time than those trying to rid the South of jim crow. He and his queen were chased out.

WHITE WOMEN IN colonial America had a tough time. "Mrs." and "Miss" were reserved for the upper class. Lower-class white women were addressed as "Goody" So-and-So. The white woman slave who ran away was branded with the letter "R" just as Negroes.

As for the Negro concubines of the white masters, as late as the 1860's sometimes they took precedence of the white wife. Helen Catterall has given us abundant proof of this and similar startling facts in her massive five-volume work, "Judicial Cases Concerning American Slavery and the Negro."

Some of America's greatest men had these Negro concubines who were so preferred over the white wife that President Madison's sister wrote: "We Southern ladies are complimented with the name of wives; but we are only mistresses of seraglios" (Clems).

* * *

THUS THE WHITE woman worship of the South was a pure fraud, and its reason almost solely economic. Whiteness was a system of exploitation that could be continued only by having the white woman breed white, the master knew. Mulatto children, on the other hand, increased the number of his exploited. The story of the white woman's oppression in America is not pleasant reading.

Before we have man or woman, we have human beings, and all human beings are entitled to 100 per cent freedom of opportunity.

I hope Mr. Alman's article will be widely read and his conclusions taken to heart by the white women of this land. With the numerical increase of their sex now in progress, their position as wives and even as workers might drop to the European standard, or lower, if they don't look out.

Legendary Swamp Guide Hits Last Trail In Southern Marsh

KELSO, Miss.—The great swamp has defeated Frank Dorsey, and in all probability the aged Negro who knew it better than any other man is dead, somewhere in the maze of cypress trees and buck vines.

Frank Dorsey, 75, wandered from his home near Kelso, Miss., on March 13, and his aging wife now accepts the fact that the swamp finally proved master over her husband. A few of his clothes, a book and other personal effects were recovered by searching neighbors, but the tangle of jungle-like foliage yielded no further trace of the old man whose fame has been spread through the years.

About 12 years ago Dorsey led despairing searchers to the body of a hunter who had lost his way and died from the pitiless exposure and maddening sameness of the swampy terrain. Before and since then, he has shown the way to others in distress.

Escorted President

His most notable experience came almost 45 years ago, however, when he was chosen to lead President Theodore Roosevelt's bear-hunting party through the swamplands. Although it could not be ascertained today, President Roosevelt was believed to have spent the night at the Dorsey cabin.

The aging Negro had been losing his quick mental faculties during late years. Efforts to find his body have failed because his friends and neighbors walk with less-certain steps in the weird swamplands, which through the years have defied approaching civilization on all sides, and which remain one of the last frontiers for big game animals who roam its recesses unmolested.

MONROE TROTTER'S SELF SACRIFICES TOLD

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — The self-sacrificing efforts which the late William Monroe Trotter, founder and editor of the Boston Guardian, devoted to the struggle for Negro rights are discussed in an interesting article in the November issue of the Negro History Bulletin by William Harrison.

Published by Dr. Carter G. Woodson here monthly, the Bulletin article relates all the high spots in Mr. Trotter's career and classifies him with Frederick Douglass as a persistent and fearless advocate of the full equality for Negroes and the abolition of all discrimination and segregation based on race or color.

Trotter "defied President Woodrow Wilson when the latter instituted segregation of Negroes employed in offices of the federal government in Washington," the author says and adds. "He threw down the gauntlet against racial discrimination on a world scale when he intervened at the Versailles Peace conference in 1919, surmounting huge obstacles to attend in person."

Mr. Trotter was denied a passport by the State department. But not to be outdone, he secured a job as second cook on a transatlantic ship and worked his way across under disguise and petitioned the conference to act against racial discrimination.)

Mr. Trotter's opposition to the comprising policy of Booker T. Washingotn is mentioned. His efforts to get the nation to enforce the provisions of the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments are related.

All these sacrifices Mr. Trotter decided to make for his race after giving up his successful operation of the real estate business. He founded The Boston Guardian in 1901 and devoted its pages largely to an uncompromising fight for Negro advancement.

The Writer as the Conscience of the People

Following is part of the text of a speech by Albert Maltz, noted author, delivered at the Progressive Citizens of America "thought control" conference held recently in Los Angeles.

By Albert Maltz

LOS ANGELES.—In the year 1902, Anatole France stood by the bier of Emile Zola and said this:

"Zola was good. He had the candor and simplicity of great souls. He was profoundly moral. In his last books he revealed completely his fervent love for for humanity. He sought to divine and foresee a better society."

And a few moments later, in reflecting upon Zola's role in the great political struggle that convulsed France and that established the innocence of the abused Alfred Dreyfus, he said to the other mourners, the thousands upon thousands who had come to the funeral of this writer: "Envy him! he has honored his country and the world through an immense work and through a great action. Envy him his destiny and his heart, which made his lot that of the greatest. He was a

ALBERT MALTZ

moment in the conscience of mankind!"

. . . It is too easy for us today to accept Zola as a great writer, to accept Dreyfus as innocent, to approve Zola's role in defending him. But what would we have said then? Would we have come forward to support Zola if we were his contemporaries and government officials called him a liar, generals in our Army called him treasonous, newspapers and magazines distorted his words, lied about his purpose, maintained that he was an agent of foreign interests?

. . . The life and words of Zola are no accident. Nor is Zola an unusual type of man in the history of literature. Only by the degree of his success and prominence, perhaps, is he to be separated from the hundreds and thousands of other writers, who, to the best of their ability, during all their lives or a part of it, also sought to be a moment in the conscience of mankind.

The mark of some writers has indeed been their indifference to the events of their times. This is what they were temperamentally as men and we will evaluate their work for what it has to offer. But the whole history of literature demands that we reject those who would build for us an aesthetic of impartiality, of dispassion, of cool indifference.

These thinkers exist only by ignoring the record and the very lives of authors they frequently admire. "To see life steady and see it whole" has been transmuted by them into the act of viewing life from the outer side of a plate glass window and both regarding it and writing about it as though it were a fascinating puppet show. Fascinating it is indeed—but the action is real, the laughter or groans issue from human hearts, the blows draw blood—and it is not a show of puppets.

Out of this fundamental has come much of the world's literature. Out of it also has come the fact, too little known and celebrated in our time, that vast numbers of the literary men and women of the past have been guerrilla fighters for unpopular causes.

A ROLL CALL

. . . They were not all Zolas, these forebears of ours. Some grew weary, some became smug, some were confused, some were intimidated.

If we know all this, then we are ready for a roll call of the writers who were not silent, who were not indifferent, who were not always in good taste, let alone good repute.

John Greenleaf Whittier! His first poem was published in a newspaper edited by Garrison. Prophet and poet of the Abolitionists, defender of the so-called lawbreakers, he dedicated one of his poems "to friends under arrest for treason against the slave power."

Richard Henry Dana, author of "Two Years Before the Mast," a lawyer as well as an author, legal defender of runaway slaves and those arrested for helping them.

Henry Thoreau! Member of the Abolitionist Vigilante Committee. He traveled the illegal Underground Railroad to guide a fugitive Negro to Canada. In protest against slavery he refused to pay taxes. Thoreau, gentle, retiring author of Walden, who opened the doors of a Concord church with his own hands and, despite warnings of violence, delivered "A Plea for Captain John Brown."

William Cullen Bryant, newspaper editor, as well as poet, fiery Abolitionist, defender of the rights of union labor when participation in a strike for higher wages was conspiracy against the law.

Walt Whitman, fired from the editorship of The Brooklyn Daily Eagle, writing his first poem, "Blood Money," in a burst of rage at the passage of the Fugitive Slave Law.

James Russell Lowell — Abolitionist; Henry Wadsworth Longfellow—Abolitionist; William Dean Howells, son of an anti-slavery journalist, partisan of labor unions, outspoken enemy of imperialism, defender of Tolstoy and Zola. . . .

And Garrison, in publishing the first issue of "The Liberator," wrote this: "I will be as harsh as truth and as uncompromising as justice . . . I am in earnest.—I will not equivocate, I will not excuse, I will not retreat a single inch—and I will BE HEARD!"

This is our heritage. What we inherit we have an obligation to defend and to enrich and to pass on. And if we do that, then we will be worthy of the name of writers.

TRIPLETS ARRIVE A MILE APART IN RACE WITH STORK

Chicago Ill. Defender Sat. 5-31-47

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—Mrs. Emma Erich McKenney, 30, set a precedent in childbirths here two weeks ago. Plus the unusual birth of triplets, Mrs. McKenney had her children a mile apart.

The first arrived in the McKinney home, ahead of schedule. Realizing there were more to come, the attending physician phoned for an ambulance and rushed Mrs. McKenney to Louisville General hospital. There the second and third girls were born.

The mother's condition was described as good, and the babies' as fair. The McKenneys are waiting for the excitement of the trip to pass before they name the girls.

Gotham To Honor Memory Of Great Pioneer Woman

Chicago Defender
Chicago Ill.

NEW YORK—The Children's Day service at Second Presbyterian Church, 6 W. 96th st., on Sunday morning, June 8, will honor the memory of Miss Katy Ferguson, noted pioneer educator, first Negro member of the church and founder, in 1793, of the first Sunday School in Gotham.

Members of the Sunday School, of the Katy Ferguson House, 162

Sat. 6-7-47

MISS KATY FERGUSON

W. 130th st., and of the board of trustees of the Mason-Ferguson Foundation for Inter-Group Education, 3 W. 95th st., will be present to offer homage to the pioneer Sunday School worker.

Miss Ferguson's influence in the field of child welfare and adult education, as well as the example of cooperation between races which she and her colleagues afforded, will be reviewed in the sermon to be given by the Rev. L. Humphrey Walz, present pastor.

Katy Ferguson was born at sea o a boat going from Virginia to New York two years before the United States came into existence as a country. Her mother died when she was a child and she became a domestic servant. She joined the church, then known as the Scotch church, when 15, received kindly by the youthful Dr. John M. Mason.

Sat. 6-7-47

Many Scotch Friends

The Scotch membership at least in part welcomed the sincere little girl, and one, a Mrs. Isabelle Graham, was later to give her money with which to establish her own business. Divie Bethune worked with her still later in the Sunday School movement. In a biography of Robert Carter who immigrated from Scotland years later are found the words: "One of the oldest members of the Scotch church and warmest friends of Mr. Carter was a colored woman named Katy Ferguson."

Sat. 6-7-47

She married at 18 but her husband and two babies died. Katy Ferguson then devoted much of her time to religious teaching of small children, both colored and white, of her neighborhood. When this private project was discovered by her pastor, Katy was given helpers and the Sunday school established in the new Murray Street Church.

Sees National Movement

Miss Ferguson was fortunate enough to live to see, in 1842, the Presbyterian General Assembly urge the establishment of the Sunday school movement. She found her place, three years after her death, in Benson J. Lossing's collection of biographies of eminent Americans. Here are found this tribute to her: "Katy's labors did not end with her Sunday school. Every Friday evening and Sunday afternoon, she gathered the poor and the outcast of her neighborhood, children and adults, white and black and into her dwelling secured some good man to conduct the prayer service." In the course of her lifetime she took 49 children, 20 of them white, and cared for them until good homes were found for them.

Baltimore, Md. Afro-American Sat. 9-6-47

Meet Johnny, 4-Year-Old 'Giant'

Weighs 40 Pounds

"John T." (as he is called by his mother) weighs 40 pounds and stands three feet, nine and a half inches.

He now wears the same size

wishes to know about, especially when his vocabulary fails to furnish him with enough words to ask questions, thought Mrs. Knight, and let it go at that. $37. 9-6-47

• by LILLIAN A. GOINGS

When Little Johnny toddled across the floor like a sailor, moving furniture about the house before he saw his first Christmas, his mother, Mrs. William Knight of Camden, N.J., paid little attention.

Any normal child at the age of four, and in addition to large and brilliant mind and an extensive vocabulary, busies himself moving one and half expresses his curiosity Glenn, and last winter a size 12 and heavy objects, Mrs. Knight has become concerned by meddling with an object he snow suit was needed to fit him.

His unusual strength was noticed

by a delivery man who set a crate of beer at the Knights' door last winter and saw John T. disappear into the house with the crate with no more effort than it would seem necessary for him to carry an empty pail. Sat. 9-6-47

Hauls Trash Cans

There is one way John T. differs from other kids. When time comes twice a week to move garbage and trash cans to the curb to be hauled away, John T. likes to do his share of lifting them.

His father, William Knight, is a former life guard and was a football star in his school days at Cape May High School.

What John T. wants most of all is to enter school. Dad and Joe Louis are his heroes.

"Think maybe I'll be a boxer," was his second strong ambition.

Here, Johnny lifts a loaded suitcase which weighs "only 46 pounds."

(Casey was trying to make up the thirty minutes they were running late out of Durant, Miss., trying to take the southbound mail from Memphis to Canton, Miss.)

SMALLEST BABY—Tiny Juanita Ford, being held by Mrs. Mildred McBee at the County Hospital in Fort Worth, Tex., is believed to be the smallest baby in the world to live more than a month. She weighed one pound and three ounces when she was born on June 21 and has gained an ounce a day over since. Baltimore Afro

Carver Triplets Well and Happy Too

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 1-11-47

The New Year found the Carver triplets of Petersburg Pike near Richmond, Va., in good health too. They are children of Mr. and Mrs. Frank R. Carver. Left to right, Naomi M., Frank R. Jr., and Ruth R., who are now six months old. Mother is a former Baltimorean, Miss Clara Hayman, daughter of the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Hayman of Alabama.

Casey Jones Grave Marked

JACKSON, Tenn.—(ANP)—Sim T. Webb, who fired No. 282 when Casey Jones pushed it to its last fateful ride forty-seven years ago, recalled the famed engineer's last words last week when a monument was unveiled on Jones' previously unmarked grave.

The famous Casey of song and story was extolled by the speechmakers while the small crowd stirred uneasily in the boiling sun in the quiet of nearby Calvary Cemetery. Many nice things were said about Casey.

But Webb, who was with Jones just before the crash, stole the show as he recalled the engineer's last words:

"Oh, Sim, the old girl's got her high-heeled slippers on tonight."

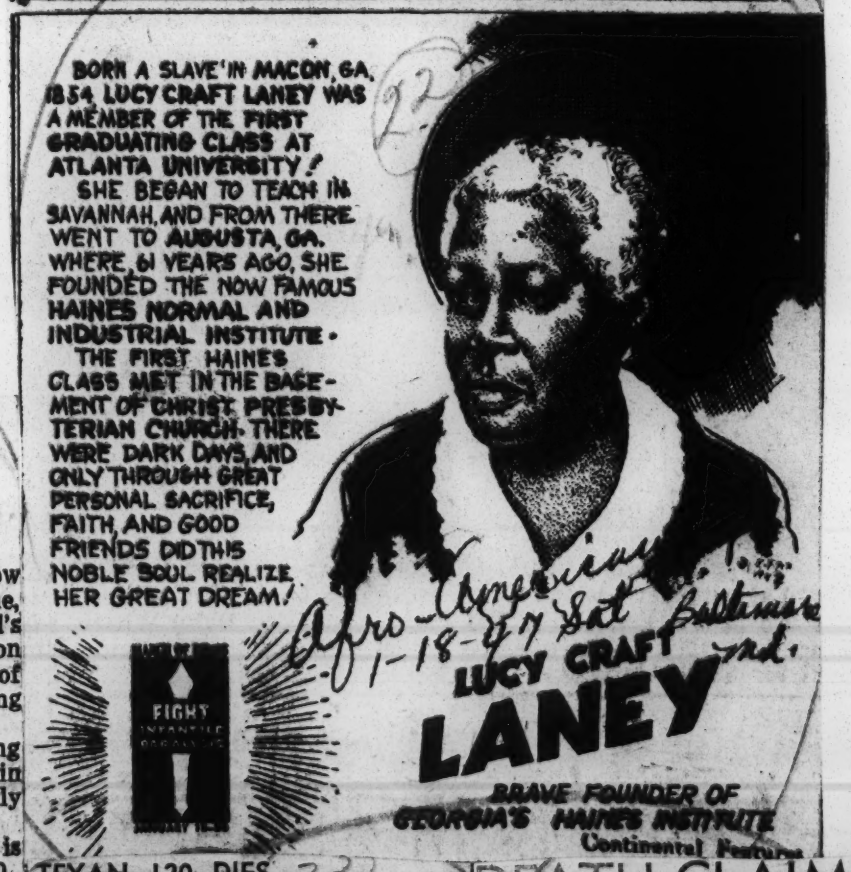
Quadruplets 'In the Pink' But Parents Are 'In the Red'

PORTLAND, Ore. (ANP)—Four tiny tots here, quads, know there's no truth to the saying that two can live as cheap as one, much less four living as cheaply as one. On Aug. 22, Portland's Tigner quadruplets were one year old. Exactly one year ago on that day they were heralded into this community as a miracle of multiple birth. They are in the pink but their parents are going in the red instead of the black.

What with the cost of living going up and with that cost being perpetually multiplied by four, things have turned quite blue in the Tigner household. In fact they put on a Sunday show recently at 25 cents a peek to add to the family treasury.

Yes, they receive a legacy, $25,000 worth. The only angle is that it comes in small once a month. This would be $6,387.50 year the way it reads ($17.50 x 365). A nurse has to be paid $25 a week besides her board and lodging. The children got softsoled shoes at $2.98 a pair for their birthday. That amounted to $11.80. Two $2.98 dresses for the girls and $1.98 rompers for the two boys came up to nearly $10.

THEY'LL NEVER DIE By Elton Fax


BORN A SLAVE IN MACON, GA. 1854, LUCY CRAFT LANEY WAS A MEMBER OF THE FIRST GRADUATING CLASS AT ATLANTA UNIVERSITY!
SHE BEGAN TO TEACH IN SAVANNAH, AND FROM THERE WENT TO AUGUSTA, GA. WHERE, 61 YEARS AGO, SHE FOUNDED THE NOW FAMOUS HAINES NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE.
THE FIRST HAINES CLASS MET IN THE BASEMENT OF CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. THERE WERE DARK DAYS, AND ONLY THROUGH GREAT PERSONAL SACRIFICE, FAITH, AND GOOD FRIENDS DID THIS NOBLE SOUL REALIZE HER GREAT DREAM!
LUCY CRAFT LANEY
BRAVE FOUNDER OF GEORGIA'S HAINES INSTITUTE
Continental Features

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. 1-18-47 Sat.

TEXAN, 120, DIES

LULING, Tex.—Thought to have been the oldest resident of Caldwell county, Mrs. Nancy Houston, whose age was given as 120, died here last week, having outlived both her children.

DEATH CLAIMS PRE-CIVIL WAR CITIZEN, 127

LYNCHBURGH, Va. (ANP)—One of the nation's oldest citizens, who during her lifetime used to recall events that took place before the Civil War, died in her home here last week. The woman was Mrs. Martha Payne, affectionately known as "Aunt Martha" to local residents.

Aunt Martha's age at her death was estimated at between 125 and 127 years. In 1943 she applied for and was granted a liquor ration book on the plea that she was "tired of imposing on" her grandchildren.

WEEK BY WEEK

St. Louis Argus

St. Louis, Mo.

By SCOTT PRIDE

Fri. 6-27-47

THE NEGRO PAST

ONE of the larger publishing houses of New York City is preparing to bring out in the near future a volume on the life of the pioneer Negro surgeon, Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, who was born midway of the past century and died in 1931. Writer of the biography is a New York white woman who is at present seeking out old documents that may throw some light on the parents of the doctor.

In a recent letter of inquiry, she seeks information relative to the existence of "any collection of pamphlets giving the Proceedings or Minutes of the National or State conventions of colored people which were held from 1832 to 1868."

She complains that she had scoured the country for copies of these items and had been able to find only about six or eight. She continues:

"They are important to my book because the father of my subject was active in the conventions, also his relatives and friends. At the moment I am particularly trying to locate the Proceedings of the National Equal Rights Convention scheduled to be held in Nashville, Tenn., September 18, 1866. Dr. Williams' father, Daniel Williams, was one of three delegates appointed by the 2nd Pennsylvania State Equal Rights Convention, held Aug. 8-10, 1866, just a month previous to the date set for the National Convention. I have not been able to find any of the records of the National Convention, which is a great frustration!" Fri. 6-27-47

Colleges and Newspapers

I can well appreciate the investigator's problem. I have myself just completed a year searching for one kind of record—Negro newspapers of the 19th century—and it is not my pleasure to relate that two of our foremost institutions—the colored college and the colored newspaper—have been the most consistent sinners with respect to preserving such materials.

Out of upwards of a thousand Negro newspapers that came to life between 1827 and 1900, barely a twentieth of these have been preserved in anything like extensive files; and possibly the only remaining evidence of the existence of some two hundred more is a copy or two, in some cases too fragile for repeated inspection. With but few exceptions these papers are to be found in public, state, university and historical society libraries scattered throughout the land.

Our colleges have not even today gone far in correcting their shortcomings on this score, only a bare handful making more than a token effort to build up Negro collections (notably Howard, Fisk and Atlanta universities). No less unconcerned about the preservation of their own product are the Negro newspapers, a surprisingly large number of whose files are in an unwholesome state of survival. The maintenance of an up-to-date morgue of reference material on the Negro past for their own selfish uses is a matter that has not received serious consideration by these same newspapers.

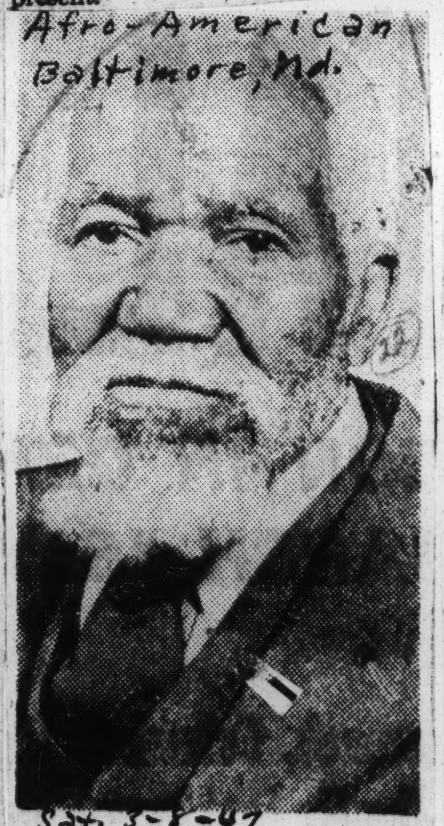
Pride in Past Fri. 6-27-47

The Negro is not uniform in his respect for his past. Even in the most enlightened circles, uncertainty exists as to whether it is the thing to preserve the present—that will some day be the past. Henry P. Slaughter, Washington, D. C., bibliophile whose Negro collection of some 10,000 items was recently bought by Atlanta university, has on several occasions declared to me that if the library of the university for which I work, would only make it its duty to collect current books relating to the Negro, it would in time have a rich holding.

You are familiar with the related fear that sometimes grips us as to the choice of Negro themes. The Negro oft eschews the subject of his own group as if it were tainted. Some day a whole raft of entertaining pages will be written analyzing this propensity to bow out of the picture when the five-letter word is tagged onto a problem for study.

The good old U.S.A. will never be without its Negro history, and the most minute details of present-day Negro life will be sought out for retelling and investigation and interpretation some hundred years hence. We can make that search the more faithful, the more truthful and the more complete by lending a hand in the preservation of valuable documents today. Where we have not quite worked up that necessary pride in our own past, we can impress future generations with a measure of pride in our own present.

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.



Sat. 3-1-47

PAST CENTURY MARK—John Alexander Heath, 107 years old, died at his home in the Poplar Branch Community. The funeral was held at the AMEZ Church, the Rev. I. L. Houston officiating. Mr. Heath, who had been ill for more than two years, lived, before coming to Statesville, in Langster County. He is survived by his third wife, Mrs. Mary Heath, age 70; 14 children, of whom ten are living. They are: Amanda Matthews, Salisbury, N.C.; Ruth Heath, Chicago, Ill.; Joseph Heath, Harrisburg, Pa.; Marie Davis, Golda Davidson, Ozell Heath, and Shelva Heath, Statesville, N.C.; Lord Heath and Mrs. Lillie Knight, Philadelphia, Pa.; 20 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren, and many other relatives.

Los Angeles Calif. Tribune

HASTIE ONLY NEGRO GOVERNOR IN U. S. HISTORY

Sat. 2-1-47

Gov. William Hastie, of the Virgin islands, is actually the only Negro ever named governor of a state or territory of the United States. P. B. S. Pinchback, of New Orleans, was governor of Louisiana after the impeachment of Governor only. Judge Hastie's appointment was confirmed by the Senate May 1, 1946.

Augusta Cleric, Oldest Resident, Succumbs At 105

Chicago Defender

Sat. 8-16-47

AUGUSTA, Ga.— The Rev. Edward Glenn, Augusta's oldest Negro citizen and minister, died at the University hospital Monday, Aug. 4, after a short illness. Had he lived until the 15th of this month he would have celebrated his 106th birthday.

He is the father of 18 children, out of that number, only two are living, one son and one daughter. He is also survived by a number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren and other relatives.

Bilbo compared to Negro senator, Blanche K. Bruce

22

Los Angeles, Calif. Tribune

Sat. 2-1-47

NEW YORK—An article written by Bert Andrews for the Jan. 18 issue of the New York Herald Tribune compared the respective merits of two Mississippi senators, one, Theodore Bilbo, and the other a former slave, Blanche K. Bruce (1875 to 1881).

Andrews, of the Tribune's Washington bureau, writes:

"The newly elected senator from Mississippi—a Negro—was ready to take the oath of office.

"He waited at the back of the Senate chamber for an escort to take him down the center aisle to the rostrum.

"There was a pause and then an embarrassing silence, for the senior senator from Mississippi—a white man—had refused to conform to the custom of accompanying a junior colleague to the vice-president's desk.

"At that moment the senior senator from New York walked up to the newly elected senator from Mississippi, offered his arm and escorted him to the rostrum.

"The foregoing is not a fanciful forecast of what the future may bring in Mississippi as a result of the tactics of Theodore G. Bilbo, who was re-elected to the United States Senate but has not yet been seated. Sat. 2-1-47

"It is, instead, a factual account of the days when Mississippi did have a Negro senator; days when that senator's eloquent appeal for fairness in elections was spread upon the record of Congress to supply a strange contrast with the doctrine of 'white supremacy' preached so violently nowadays by Mr. Bilbo."

Comparing the philosophies of the Negro and Bilbo, Andrews submitted direct quotes from the two senators of which the following is an example:

"Senator Bruce: 'But if it can be shown that we have used the ballot either to abridge the rights of our fellow citizens or to oppress them; if it shall appear that we have ever used our newly acquired power as a sword of attack and not as a shield of defense, then we may with some show of propriety be charged with incapacity, dishonesty or tyranny. But even then, I submit that the corrective is in the hands of the people, and not of a favored class, and the remedy is in the honest exercise of the ballot and not in fraud and violence'."

(Senator-elect Bilbo: "I said the best time to keep a nigger away from a white primary in Mississippi was to see him the night before." Sat. 2-1-47

Senator Bruce was born a slave, near Farmville, Edward county, Va., and was tutored by his master's son. He left his master after the Civil War to teach school in Hannibal, Mo., leaving this post to study at Oberlin college, Ohio. Before being elected to the Senate he led a distinguished life as a planter and state official. He died in Washington in 1898.

Woman, 105, Recalls Lincoln's Note Book

the Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

NEW BEDFORD, Mass. — Mrs. Abbie Gant, of the New Bedford City Infirmary will celebrate her 105th birthday next April 25.

Born in Washington, D.C., her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Temple Rollin, never had her birth officially recorded, but she always has remembered the date. She has no living relatives.

Remembers Lincoln

During the Civil War she lived in the South and remembers seeing Mr. Lincoln. She remembers her jot down what they had to say him and listen to people and then he used to carry a little book with

Mrs. Gant moved to the infirmary from her home last September. She likes to smoke and when she was young she worked on the cranberry bogs on Cape Cod. She thinks that anybody can get along and live a good life if they work hard.

12-Year-Old Tenn. Girl Has Baby Boy

Chicago Defender Sat. 8-16-47

SMALLEST MOTHERS TO BEAR A BABY

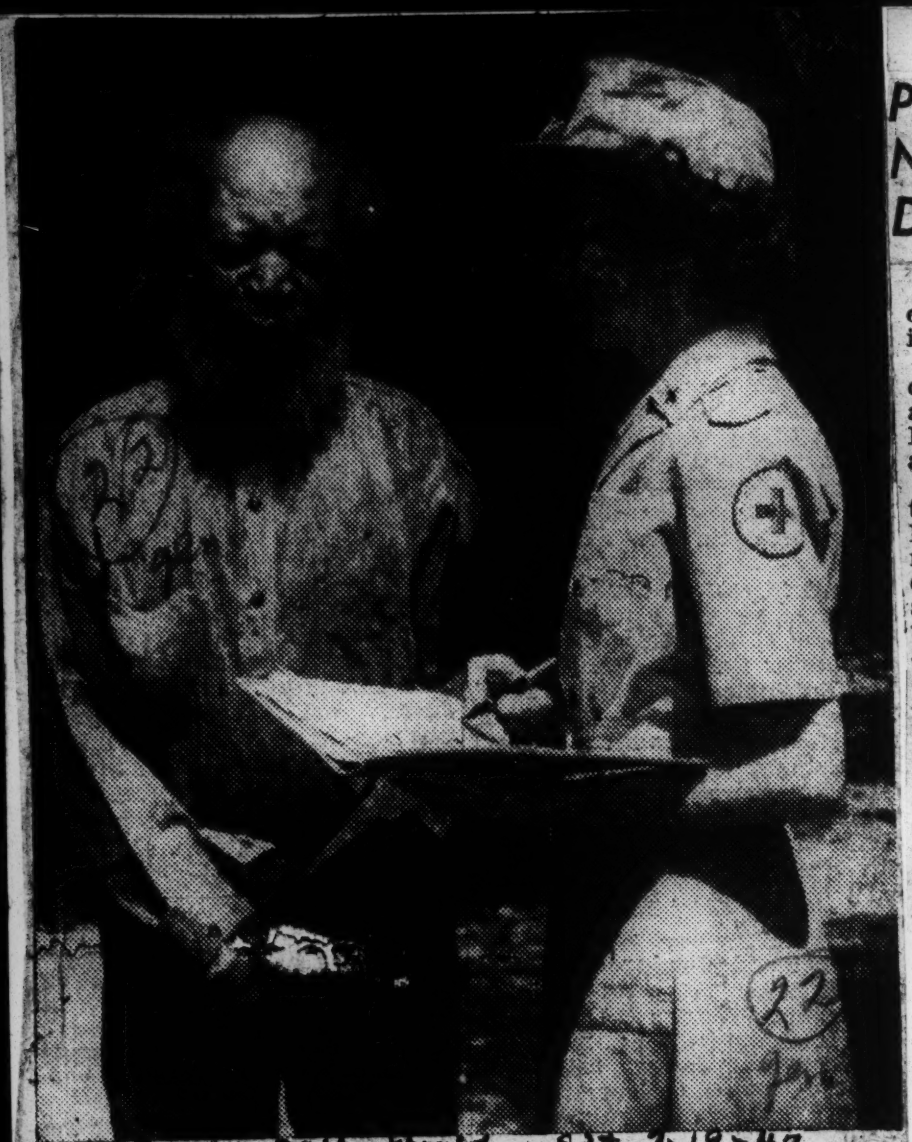
In the annals of state hospital obstetrics records.

AUGUSTA, Ga.— The Rev. Edward Glenn, Augusta's oldest Negro citizen and minister, died at the University hospital Monday, Aug. 4, after a short illness. Had he lived until the 15th of this month he would have celebrated his 106th birthday.

He is the father of 18 children, out of that number, only two are living, one son and one daughter. He is also survived by a number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren and other relatives.

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn.—A 12-year-old school girl gave birth to a 6½-pound baby boy by Caesarean operation at the Appalachian Hospital here last Thursday morning. The girl, who was 12 years old in June, had just completed the fifth grade last school session.

Attendant physicians at the hospital stated that she was one of the youngest, as well as one of the



Atlanta G. & Daily World Sat. 7-19-47

INDIAN FIGHTER DISCUSSES FEDERAL PENSION — Veterans of World Wars I and II are not the only veterans who have called on Red Cross for assistance in straightening out claims. Andrew Rice, 98 year-old Negro veteran of the Southwest Indian Wars, discusses his federal pension with Miss Cleo Wynne, Home Service worker from the Tucson Red Cross chapter. The Red Cross has helped the venerable soldier with claims difficulties at different times for the past 27 years. Rice served in the U. S. Army from 1878 to 1888. (American Red Cross photo by Oliver Goldsmith)

Louisville Courier-Journal Fri. 7-25-47

Birmingham, Ala., News
August 22, 1947

Primus Hutchinson, Noted State Negro, Dies At Age Of 100

Primus Hutchison is dead.

And with his passing has gone one of the most colorful figures in Alabama's Negro population.

Primus was more than 100 years old. Most of his life was spent in and around the mines of Alabama By-Products Corporation at Dixiana, Ala.

He was counsellor and advisor to the little community for years. In his more active days he was a minister. Primus married hundreds of couples, the records show. He visited them in their times of sorrow; cautioned them against all manner of excesses, and was a staunch advocate of amicable and friendly relationship between the races.

He spoke vividly and with remarkable accuracy of the days of the War Between the States.

Funeral services for Primus will be conducted at 2 p.m. Sunday at Dixiana. White and Negro friends will attend. Poole Funeral Home will be in charge.

Healthy Fultz Quads Observe First New Year

The Fultz Quadruplets of Madison, N.C., who observed their first New Year's Day last week in their new and modern nursery. Since their birth May 23, 1946, the quadruplets, all girls, have developed into healthy youngsters. They are children of Mr. and Mrs. James Fultz. Left to right, Mary Louise, Mary Anne, Mary Kathryn and Mary Alyce. The children, who weighed 3½ pounds each at birth, now top the scales at 17 and 18 pounds. Dr. Fred Klanner who attended them at birth attributes their good health to the careful care they have received. A registered nurse attends them at all times and modern facilities are provided in a new home on a 150-acre farm made available by a well-known milk company until they reach the age of ten. Their mother, who is a deaf mute, is also reported in good health.

COURIER-JOURNAL
Louisville, Ky.
Sat. 11-22-47

Associated Press Photo.

BY KICKING the laws of nature in giving birth recently to a horse colt, this plow mule has become the object of a $50,000 suit. Samuel Basile, Negro farmer, claims he bought the mule last September from Acie Miller, livestock trader of St. Martinsville, Ala., and has filed the $50,000 suit to regain possession of mule and colt. Miller, saying he had only "loaned" the mule, took the animal and her offspring to his stables after the colt was born. It was believed the third birth of a colt to a mule in veterinary history.

A Misleading Term

Journal & Guide
22

From The Negro History Bulletin

IN THE usual treatment of social problems the Negroes of the United States are referred to along with others as one of the minority groups. Persons uninformed in the history of the United States are thereby given the impression that the Negroes recently reached the United States along with the Asiatics and Southern Europeans who have come to these shores mainly since the Civil War. The term minority group may be accurately applied to the Chinese, Japanese, Hindoos, and the like with such connotation, but it is an error to refer thus to the American Negro. Every effort should be made to set aright those now dealing seriously with social problems. This task is not a matter of changing the attitude of the illiterates, for practically all Americans are ignorant as to the past and present status of the Negro except knowing that members of this race were once enslaved in America and that they are now hated and segregated.

Norfolk Va. * * *

Negroes are not recent immigrants into the United States and they are not here in small numbers. The Negro has been a pioneer and maker of America. Negroes came with the Latin explorers who subdued and settled the West Indies, South America, Central America, Florida, California, the Southwestern part of the United States and Canada, some of them more than a century before the race-hating English and Dutch sent out colonists to settle along the Atlantic shores. The Portuguese and Spaniards were trading with Africa and had brought a number of Africans to Europe as early as 1442. They had thus established contact with the Negro race 177 years before the English made their acquaintance with them through that Dutch vessel which brought 20 Negroes to Jamestown in 1619. Negroes accompanying Spaniards on their expedition toward the North from Florida figured in the settlement of San Miguel near the present site of Jamestown in 1525; but they reached the decision that they were not being treated right, broke up the settlement, and returned to the West Indies.

Traces of the Negro appear today in the blood and the material culture of the people of all these parts of the Western Hemisphere which they reached in the 15th and 16th centuries. The study of the people themselves show how they have absorbed the Negro population in not only Latin America but in Florida, Louisiana, California, and sections in the Southwest wherever the fair-minded Latin dominated the scene. Evidences of African art in the house construction and furniture produced by the Negroes of those parts still remain. Their dialect as an influence on the language spoken by their neighbors is apparent, as is also the rich folk literature which we are just beginning to appreciate as a contribution to American culture. The stamp of the African on religion in America and the unusual achievement in music are incontestable. In spite of the antagonistic and supercillious attitude of the English speaking element on the continent the Negro as a pioneer and maker of America has been a constructive force even in the development of the culture which the Nordic was unable wholly to dominate. In the final analysis American culture at its best is the result of the conflict and fusion of several cultures of which that of the Negro has been outstanding.

Sat. 11-22-47 * * *

The awakened Negro keenly resents the action of the recent arrivals immigrating from Europe and almost immediately trying to lord it over the Negro who has been the pioneer in what is now the United States and an indispensable maker of this nation. The Negro keenly resents the slur that he came to America with the early explorers as a slave. This could not be true, for slavery as it developed later was unknown to Europeans in the 15th and 16th centuries. Slavery developed in the 17th century along with the cultivation of indigo, sugar, tobacco and cotton. The Negroes who came over with the early Latin adventurers were no more slaves than any other working people of that time who served indentures. These Negro companions were brought along to function as laborers on the vessels and to fight the battles waged against the Indians for the possession of the Americas.

* * * *

There is, moreover, abundant evidence of the higher functions of these Negroes. Nuflo de Olano was Balboa's main support in fighting his way across the Isthmus to the Pacific Ocean. When rations were running short among the followers of Cortez in Mexico Juan Garrido experimented with wheat to increase the food supply and became the first planter of this grain in the Western Hemisphere. Estevanico led the expedition of the Spainards into the territory of the Zuni Indians in what is now New Mexico and Arizona. A Negro of those later days became a rich miner and planter in Guatemala. Another Negro, Francisco Xavier de Luna, so distinguished himself as to become the first native bishop of the Catholic Church in America. And so on the story goes, and it becomes more compelling with the record of the large number of Negroes who owned plantations of thousands of acres and other wealth which gave them front rank in Louisiana. In San Francisco prior to 1850 was a rich Negro, the city treasurer.

Woman Dies At 125; Among Nation's Oldest

Journal & Guide
Norfolk Va.
12-6-47

One of the nation's oldest citizens, Mrs. Payne, affectionately known as "Aunt Martha" to local residents, recalled during her lifetime many events occurring before the Civil War.

LYNCHBURG, Va.—(ANP)—Mrs. Martha Payne, who in 1943 applied for and was granted a liquor ration book because she was "tired of imposing on her grandchildren," died in her home last week at 125. 12-6-47

ROGERS SAYS

ARNOLD J. TOYNBEE, who is often mentioned as the world's number one historian, de-

THEREFORE, when I read Toynbee's statement some years ago it gave me quite a jolt because it had not one of our brother columnists approved what he said. At least, is sounded cause he strikes me as one who like approval to me. tries to interpret history, not according to racial and national My only explanation for Mr. Toynbee's statement is that he ego, but on a broad human basis did no research on the subject. Further, in the work in question, he opposes color prejudice cisely as I once did and as millions in his "Study of History," tribution to any current best seller, that the one of our Negro has made any "creative twenty-one" civilizations is contribution" to the world's "21" civilizations. Quote, "When we the Black race. classify mankind by color, race has not the only one of the primary helped to create races ... Which civilization ..." He goes on to give what the

Mr. Rogers

still do. Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

I CAN CITE at least a hundred white writers, ancient, mediaeval and modern who have made statements that flatly contradict Toynbee. To name only a few: Herodotus, Aristotle, Strabo, Ammianus, Procopius, Al Jahiz, Ali Ibn Abd Allah, Volney, Jacob Bryant, Godfrey Higgins, Rawlinson and Wilkinson, Gerald Massey, Frobenius, Schure, Fabre d'Olivet, E. Balfour, Henry M. Stanley, David Livingstone, Sir Harry Johnston, J. P. Widney, Felix Dubois, Riva-Palacio, C. C. Marquez, Amos Dorsey, and so on. Is it possible that these scholars and many more are all wrong and Toynbee, alone, is right?" Sat 8, 9-47

Now Egyptian civilization is largely the mother of present white civilization. As to the "race" of the Egyptians, Herodotus, Father of History (B. C. 484-425), an eye-witness, wrote, "I believe the Colchians are a colony of Egyptians because like them they have black skins and wooly hair." Aristotle (B. C. 384-322), also an eyewitness, says (Problems, xiv, 4) that the Ethiopians and Egyptians were "wooly-haired."

Count Volney (1757-1820), wrote, "The ancient Egyptians were real Negroes of the same species as the other present natives of Africa," also that "to the race of Negroes, our slaves, and the object of our extreme contempt we owe our arts, sciences and even the very use of speech."

* * *

SIR J. G. WILKINSON said of Amenophis III, greatest of the Egyptian conquerors, "The era of Amen-ophis III was noted for the great spirit and beauty of its sculptures . . . The features of this monarch cannot fail to strike everyone who examines the portraits of the Egyptian kings as having more in common with the Negro than those of any other Pharaoh."

Darwin, in his "Descent of Man," also insists he was a Negro. Amenophis III was the father of Akhenaton, "most remarkable of the Pharaohs." Toynbee, himself, tells of a Negro Egyptian grandee he met at Oxford. If such exist now, why not then?

And, so I could go on with Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Chinese, East Indian, Moorish and almost all of Toynbee's twenty-one civilizations, nearly all of which had some Negro in them.

Sat-8-9-47

ESOP AND HIS predecessor, Lokman, were both Negroes. Have they contributed anything creative? Or the Moors of Spain who were of African Negro origin? Toynbee speaks of the Polynesian White Race and its culture.

Well, that is really too much.

This refutation calls for more space than I have in this column but I have given some of the abundant sources on the subject in my books.

In short, I can say without being dogmatic that Toynbee is 100 per cent wrong about "Blacks" contribution. This, however, shoul not prejudice us against his really excellent "Study of History."

THEY BADE HIM STAY AWAY

Thurs-7-31-47

At Least Until 'New York Has Gone Home'—Odd Scrawls in Pleas Sent by the Lowly

Times New York, N.Y.

By CARL SANDBURG
Famous Lincoln Biographer

Copyright by The Chicago Times News Syndicate

WASHINGTON, July 30—Parts of the strategy by which Abraham Lincoln was nominated for President in 1860, and the wear and tear on the nerves of all concerned, is highlighted in a series of letters and telegrams now made known in a volume of the heritage gift of President Lincoln's son in the Library of Congress.

"Your chances are tightening," wrote William Butler of Springfield, from the Chicago scene two days before the convention was to open and, "prospects look bright for you; all speak of you as their second choice."

"We are laboring to make you the second choice of all the delegations," wrote N. M. Knapp. "We are dealing tenderly with delegates, taking them in detail and making no fuss. * * * Brace your nerves for any result."

"Great confusion" but things "look favorable," Jess K. Dubois wrote on May 13, and in a telegram the next day joining his name to that of David Davis of Bloomington, Ill., known as the most active and influential of Lincoln's campaign managers, a Circuit Court Judge of long tenure and an owner of many farms. They wired Lincoln in Springfield: "We are quiet but moving heaven and earth nothing will beat us but old fogy politicians the heart of the delegates are [sic] with us."

Friends Urge He Stay Calm

Two days later Dubois, a Springfield neighbor of Lincoln, telegraphed Lincoln: "prospects fair friends at work night and day tell my wife I am well." In the same sheaf of telegrams Lincoln read from David Davis: "Am very hopeful don't be excited nearly dead with fatigue telegraph or write here very little."

"Your friends are at work," began a letter of Charles H. Ray, an editor of The Chicago Press and Tribune, ending "don't get excited." William Butler on May 16 at 4 P. M. wrote Lincoln a letter ending, "I am weighting [sic] in the room where all is fuss and confusion."

Thurs-7-31-47

On May 18 Representative George Ashumun of Maine, chairman of the convention, signed an elaborately elegant script notifying Lincoln of the action of the convention in nominating him for President. On the same day David Davis telegraphed Lincoln: "write no letters and make no promises till you see me write me at Bloomington when to see you I must see you soon."

Later in the day the anxious David Davis, weight 300 pounds and it was sweltering hot weather in Chicago, added vehemence to his earlier counsel with a second telegram to Lincoln:

"Don't come here for God's sake you will be telegraph to by others to come it is the united voice (?) of your friends not to come this is important."

Chicago Feared New York

A third telegram that day further advised Lincoln to stay right there in his home town. The three editors of the Chicago Press and Tribune, C. H. Ray, J. L. Scripps and J. Medill, wired the new nominess: "Our consultation the Penna folks say do not come here till after New York has gone home."

The most prolific of letter writers to Lincoln before and during the convention was Mark Delahay of Kansas, who seems to have been about the only person to whom Lincoln paid small amounts of cash for political work in rounding up delegates. When Lincoln later appointed Delahay to the Federal bench it was questioned by many as certainly the queerest and possibly the worst appointment ever made by the War President.

Thur-7-31-47

Delahay's letters are the only ones I have met thus far in this period which used the name "Abe Lincoln" on the envelope address. He wrote Lincoln from Leavenworth, Kan., Nov. 14, 1859, with the salutation: "My dear friend" which is the only one of that familiarity I have thus far met and wrote, in part:

"Today, if you would only discard a little modesty and not distrust your own Powers, and Strike boldly and for the next 6 months cease to be a modist [sic] man you are more likely in my judgment to fill the Bill that [sic] any man I can think of * * * I have the controll [sic] of two leading papers in Kansas, to wit, The Daily Register here * * * and the State Record at Topeka * * * and I have a claim against the Gazette Wyandott for $1800—and am part owner of the two first papers, if I can see the effort made properly in Illinois they shall all whirl into line."

He had the name of a blowhard, this Delahay, who later was to resign from the Federal bench in apprehension of evidence to be brought that he was a habitual drunkard and had heard cases in a state of intoxication. He wrote Lincoln during the convention of how he was swinging the nomination and, "if we are beat this will be the last time I shall ever be heard from in politics." His brief and shaky scrawl, after Lincoln was nominated, was closed. "it is the happiest day of my checquered [sic] life."

Times-N.Y.N.Y.

At Springfield Dec. 18, 1860, Lincoln wrote a letter we now have in a copy in John Hay's handwriting. It embodied Lincoln's best idea, for that hour probably, looking toward reconciliation.

Duff Green had come to Springfield as an unauthorized ambassador from the seceded states, "endeavoring to draw a letter out of me," wrote Lincoln to Senator Lyman Trumbull at Washington. To Trumbull went a copy of the letter Lincoln would hand to Green if, as wrote Trumbull, "on consultation, our friends, including yourself, think it can do no harm."

On condition that ssix of the twelve United States Senators from the States of Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Florida anad Texas should sign their names to a recommendation that their States "suspend all action for dismemberment of the union at least until some act, deemed to be violative of our rights, sall be done by the incoming administration"—on that condition Lincoln would publicly declare for "the maintenance inviolate of the rights of the States," essential to the national political fabric, Lincoln to specifically declare, "I denounce the lawless invasion, by armed forces, of the soil of any State or territory, no matter under what pretext, as the gravest of crimes." And of this groping for a solution came—nothing, no letter from Duff Green to publish.

Medill Wrote of "Revolution"

A letter of Joseph Medill, editor of The Chicago Press and Tribune, viewing the national scene from Washington, D. C., was marked "Confidential," dated Dec. 31, 1860, to "A. Lincoln Dr. Sir," reading:

My apology for so frequently writing to you is that we are in a *revolution*, and I am a volunteer sentinal on the walls. It is a plan of the disunionists to have an army in this city within five weeks, to drive out the Republican members and to prevent your inauguration by force. It is expected that in thirty days Maryland will pronounce for the disunionists. Who can say that she will not?

Thur-7-31-47

Let me suggest an idea that has occurred to me:—Would it not be a *coup d'etat* were you to quietly, with only a carpet sack, get on the cars, and drop down in this city some day next week or very soon. Would it not knock over and disarrange all the plans of the traitors, and show them they had a second Jackson to deal with. Thousands of our friends would remain loyal. You could either put up at a private house or at the hotel, as might be deemed most advisable. Our friends would then have a head here with whom to advise, the Fed. State Governments would promptly respond to any call made upon them in defense of the union.

It is all important that you take the oath of office here on the 4th of March on the steps of the capitol. The moral effect will be with [worth] an army of 10,000 men. If this suggestion is worth anything turn it over in your mind. Perhaps you have already resolved to do so.

Secresy [sic] and dispatch, Napoleon the Great said, wore the talsman [sic] of success.

Yours in haste,
MEDILL.

Thur-7-31-47

Lincoln's Kentucky Notes

In this final article of the series regret is expressed that in the rapid copying from torn paper was an omission from the last paragraph of Lincoln's memoranda for a speech in Kentucky in January of 1860. The correction reads:

I do not deny the possibility that the people may err in an election; but if they do the true [omitted word probably "cure" or "remedy"] is in the next election and not in the treachery of the person elected.

The folks, the American people in their infinite variety, stand forth in the swarming scripts and scrawls of the 194 volumes. What did Lincoln mean when John Hay heard him tell a dream where a figure spoke, saying "God must have loved the common people—he made so many of them!"

Thurs-7-31-47

He could have had in mind the likes of honest, industrious, scrawn, lovable Hannah Armstrong. Tradition has it she washed his shirt, "foxed" his breeches, cared for him as one of her own boys in early days of struggle, wept in a court of justice when he won acquittal of one of her sons on a charge of murder.

Mrs. Armstrong's Letter

Now we have her letter of July 23, 1858, at "State of Illinois Mason County" addressed to "Mr. A. Lincoln, Atts. at Law, Sangamon Co. Ills.," and has one straightway paragraph narrative of woe and need, reading:

dear Sir, after my best respects to you I am now in destress and dont know what to do I live on 40 acres of land and have a tax Title deed for it sold for taxes for the year 1855 to Edward hrobaum and assigned to John Armstrong My husband in his lifetime and I have the sherifs deed for it and have paid Tax for it ever sence And I am now living on it and the water rises in my seller and milk house so that I cannot live in satisfaction And I have baught 40 acres joining the 40 I live on sence the death of my husband and have part of both forties in Cultivation now sir what I want to know is this if I move my house onto the 40 I baught sence the death of my husband wheather I can hold the forty that I now live on as homestead or not as they joine and part of both in cultivation and house and both fortys would not Be valued to one thousand dollars and I want you to write to me on the recip of these lines and let me know wheather I can move my house and hold the land or not Direct to Petersburg Illinois.

Thurs-7-31-47

MORE FROM DENNIS HANKS

Cousin in His Usual Form—
Springfield Farewell Speech
in Pencil Draft Is Bared

By CARL SANDBURG
Famous Lincoln Biographer

Copyright by The Chicago Times News Syndicate

HISTORICAL NOTES

Time Magazine Mon-8-4-47

The Lincoln Letters

Chicago Illinois

One night last week, the Library of Congress staged the biggest show in its history. Its collection of Lincoln papers, given to the Library by Lincoln's son Robert on condition that they be kept under lock & key until 21 years after his death, was about to be opened.

As the 12:01 deadline (the hour of Robert Lincoln's death) approached, 23 Lincoln scholars and members of the Library staff left a banquet hall and walked solemnly into a room in the Library annex. Among them was white-thatched Lincoln Historian Carl Sandburg, who had spent part of the evening singing songs of the Lincoln period to his colleagues. Steel doors swung open, and the collection, 194 black-backed volumes, stood revealed.

22

Most of the attendant scholars were already familiar with some of the 18,350 pieces of personal and official mail, manuscript and memoranda. Much of the material has been referred to and quoted in the works of Lincoln's two secretaries, John G. Nicolay and John Hay. Later it became the source material of innumerable books by other authors. But it would be a rich mine of Lincolniana. Few collections have led so closely guarded an existence.

Although Robert Lincoln lent the vast pile of papers to Nicolay and Hay, who had them for 27 years, he refused to make the collection public. According to legend, he was afraid that Indiana's late Senator Albert Beveridge would use some item to write something unfavorable about the Lincoln family.

Mon-8-4-47

The next afternoon, 3,500 people crowded into the Library's rotunda to watch a public ceremony. Lincoln's great-grandson, Robert Todd Lincoln Beck-

with, and General Grand[illegible]dson, Ma[illegible] ignored in the preparation of the peace treaties and cannot therefore be United States, the Soviet Union, Chinain the Civil War will come in here to see and Great Britain secured victory overif Lincoln wrote him a letter."
the aggressor Japan with their armed forces. . . . The Council of Foreign Ministers, formed at the initiative of the United States, was created precisely for the preliminary work on the preparation

The New York Times Nov-10-47 N.Y.
Half the Newly Opened Letters
Show 'Polite Importunity,'
Winning Balderdash'
Tue. 7-29-47

POLITICIANS NOTES

PESTERED LINCOLN

WASHINGTON, July 28—What new in politics is often termed the gravy train was known in Lincoln's time as the hog trough and the proper petitions and improper shennanigans, wheedling, groaning and griping of it runs through about half of the letters in the papers newly opened to the public in the Library of Congress.

Among the groaners and gripers was former Congressman William Kellogg of Canton, Ill., and the latest revelation of his course of conduct is in a letter of April 8, 1863 from his home city. On the envelope in what seems to be the handwriting of the Secretary, John Hay, is a notation

A bitter letter from Hon. Wm. Kellogg Ill. declining the post of consul at Valparaiso

Below this in the handwriting of Lincoln is the comment:

I understand my friend Kellogg is ill-natured—therefore I do not read his letters.

Tue-7-29-47 AL

The species of polite importunity and whining balderdash that Lincoln had grown tired of hearing from Kellogg are in a sentence from the long-drawn letter, as follows:

"At the time I was indiscreet enough to indicate to Your Excellency a desire for an appointment to any office, for which, I was vain enough to believe I was qualified but from the position now offered I am forced to conclude, that Your Excellency held a decidedly different opinion from my own on the subject, or that my political status was such that the Administration would suffer by my appointment to an office of the grade of those held by Peck, Wilmot, Olin, Fisher, Swett, Ashby and Carter and many other recent appointments."

Like Complaint Made in 1861

For Lincoln students one point of interest in the foregoing is that it checks so curiously with documents made public some years ago from the Oliver R. Barrett Collection in Chicago. Congressman Kellogg as of April 3, 1861, wrote bitterly in the Executive mansion of his "humiliation" in the refusal of an appointment by the President, Lincoln writing on the reverse side of this note:

"Mr. Kellogg does me great injustice to write in this strain—he has had more favors than any other Illinois member, not excepting, I think, Judge Trumbull. Is it really in his heart to add to my perplexities now?"

Those acquainted with Abraham Lincoln's vital, garrulous, illiterate, graphic cousin, Dennis Hanks, as revealed in letters and interviews, are interested to find his tone of voice, his backwoods lingo, his can-

realization and freedom from punctuation are the same as of yore:

"April 5th 64

"Dere Abe I Received your Little Check for 50.00 I shoed it to Mother She cried like a child Abe She is Mity childish heep of truble to us Beta is very feeble and has to wait on hir which ort to have Sum person to wait on hir we are getting old We have a great Many to wait on of our Connections they will Cum to see us while we live . . ."

"Yours Respectfully

Tue-7-29-47 D. F. Hanks."

Lincoln Draft in Lead Pencil

The farewell speech of Lincoln from a Wabash Railroad coach to his friends and neighbors of his home town of Springfield, Ill., Feb. 11, 1861, we have now in a text as Lincoln himself wanted it. There have been those who claimed the Nicolay-Hay text omitted a Lincoln reference to his career being "checkered," with other variants from what was actually spoken.

What we have now is not merely the address as partly written by Lincoln but the writing is the only known specimen of Lincoln working with a lead pencil on a jolting, careening Wabash train of '61.

The good Jim Randall helped me in a study of this odd sheet of paper. The familiar Lincoln handwriting, with a lead pencil giving him a dim gray more often than clear black, holds these lines:

No one, not in my situation, can appreciate my feeling of sadness at this parting. To this place, and the kindness of these people, I owe everything. Here I have lived a quarter of a century, and have passed from a young to an old man. Here my children have been born, and one is buried. I now

And at that point it would seem that Lincoln tried to write the word "leave," found it too indistinct, ran his pencil through it and from then on left the writing to Nicolay from dictation, Lincoln speaking the remaining lines of that utterly solemn sentence—

leave, not knowing when or whether ever, I may return, with a task before me greater than that which rested upon Washington.

Tue-7-29-47

Respect for Lincoln's Son

The shadow of Robert Todd Lincoln has not grown less by virtue of his decisions as to what he deemed worthwhile of his manuscript possessions to go to posterity. Several with whom I have talked who have been active in ransacking his heritage seem to have gotten better acquainted with the donor, with some manner of increase in affection and respect for him.

The previous evidence is definite that he had in his possession letters written by his mother and he chose to include in his bequest none of these letters. His mother is represented in the collection by one lone example of her writing with her signature merely initialed. On the back of a telegram notifying President Lincoln and Secretary Stanton of severe injuries received by Secretary Seward in a carriage overturned by runaway horses, Mary Lincoln wrote with a lead pencil:

We will be ready to leave to-morrow eve 6 o'clock do wait and return with us.

In a card catalogue of the collection I picked at random some five inches of cards in the category of "Republicans," though if it had been a box of D's instead of R's I would have tried "Democrats."

I rambled along and found nothing you might call fresh or provocative as a subject. Yet I well know that later under some dull heading may leap forth a bright human item. Jim Randall had a word for it, last Friday before the "unveiling." He was reminded of the boy stumped by an examination question, "Name the undiscovered islands of the Pacific Ocean."

STUDENTS SCAN NEW DATA

Times-New York, N.Y.

Find Microfilm Copies Ready at Library of Congress

WASHINGTON, July 27 (AP)—Scholars avid for fresh Lincoln data found microfilm copies of the newly opened Robert Todd Lincoln documents available at the Library of Congress today, and spent long hours scanning them, although it was Sunday.

Mon-7-28-47

Each microfilm copy of the 18,350 papers is nearly two miles long. These copies are available to anyone wishing to buy them, but a single microfilm of all the documents sells for $645. A copy of the indext to the documents may be had for $32.

The Library of Congress provided a special staff to assist the Lincoln experts who came from all parts of the country for the unsealing yesterday of the documents which the late Robert Todd Lincold collected at the White House after his father's assassination.

Until the dramatic opening, Robert Lincoln had permitted only John Nicolay and John Hay, secretaries and official biographers of the President, and catalogue specialists of the library to see the papers. The library experts worked under strict secrecy.

Another collection, presented to the library on the eve of the opening of the Robert Lincoln collection, is expected to be a rich addition to the nation's Lincolniana.

Dr. David G. Mearns, director of the reference division of the library, said today that Miss Helen Nicolay's gift to the library of her father's personal papers "will be a tremendous aid to Lincoln scholars in their study of the Robert Lincoln collection."

The Lincoln

They Evoke for Us His Spirit Of Good-Will, Writer Says

Times-New York, N.Y.

The writer of the following letter was director of information of the League to Enforce Peace. He is now chairman of the World Friendship School Committee for the United States.

Sun.8-3-47

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:

As a son of Lincoln's Sangamon country, raised on Lincoln lore from my boyhood, I am in no degree surprised that the thousands of Lincoln letters and papers just opened in Washington have yielded few new facts and no sensations. But they have revealed again the universal interest in the Great Emancipator and the deep affection the masses of mankind have for him—the "common people" that "God must have loved," as he put it in his homespun phrase, "because He made so many of them."

For them—and that really includes all of us—there can never be too high an Ossa to pile on top of Pelion in praising Abraham Lincoln's spirit. Too much about him has always been too little. It has been so from the day when one of the early and best lives of Lincoln was published by a famous editor of THE NEW YORK TIMES, Henry J. Raymond, on through the papers and writings of another editor of THE TIMES, the beloved John Finley, from Lincoln's own Sangamon country, until Carl Sandburg and the scores of Lincoln writers gathered in the Congressional Library at midnight last Friday.

Sun. 8-3-47

And here is the reason: no other American has ever made so strong an appeal to oncoming youth. The Kentucky boy who read the few books he could get by flaming pine knots, who split rails in Indiana to help pay for his scattered schooling, and who later bravely led his company of Illinois volunteers in the Black Hawk War, is democracy personified to the youth of today.

Wide Use Envisaged

Carl Sandburg is right in saying in THE TIMES that many of the new letters, as well as the old ones, will be read and studied in the schools. Instantly the decision has been made to include some of them in the World Friendship broadcasts when schools reopen in the fall.

It is surely not too much to believe that their spirit of good-will and freedom will help toward the healing of the nations; the best hope for that is that the North and South of Lincoln's time, separated more sharply even than Eastern and Western Europe are today, have been reunited in an indestructible union through the spread of the spirit of Abraham Lincoln. Only a month ago General Eisenhower tested and proved this in his memorable visit and moving address at the reunion of the survivors of the siege of Vicksburg.

Sun.8-3-47

The opening of the sealed Lincoln papers, so wonderfully described and visualized by the press, the radio and the motion picture, will result in a greater service to the world than a "sensational discovery" could possibly have been, for it will cause Lincoln's countrymen to restudy his life and reincarnate his spirit, so that they may write and help save the world, as he saved the Union.

K.M.-N.Y.T. Tue. 7-29-47

Lincoln and the Little Men: The Lincoln papers have now been opened, amidst great fanfare. Nothing has been discovered that we did not know before, and what we knew was that Lincoln showed dignity and grace in a crisis, and had an unerring sense for the exactly right word. I wonder whether others have been struck, as I have, by the contrast between the devotional attitude we now have toward Lincoln, dead for 82 years, and the sneering attitude that is developing toward the memory of another great crisis President, Franklin Roosevelt, who has been dead for only two years. Evidently distance makes the national heart grow fonder, and a great man has to lie moldering in his grave for a long time before the hatreds that greatness engenders are all burned away.

Lincoln

Tue. 7-29-47

One other fact is worth noting about the current devotion to Lincoln. We live in a time of little men—the Deweys, the Tafts, the Trumans. The next five years will be the most fateful in world history, yet the only men whom either of our political parties is willing to enter in the Presidential race are men who lack both Lincoln's capacity to think and his capacity to feel. Somewhere in our heads, whether we are aware of it or not, this fact has registered. The measure of the to-do that Americans are making about Lincoln is the measure of their hunger for a man of stature, a brooding man of sorrows, to lead them in the most sorrowful epoch of history.

Dustin' off the NEWS

By LUCIUS C. HARPER

Chicago Sun 22

A NEGRO HEARD LINCOLN'S GETTYSBURG SPEECH BEFORE ANYONE

Sat. 11-15-47

OBSERVANCE of the occasion on which Abraham Lincoln delivered his famous Gettysburg Address, which has become a gem of the English language, will take place on that historic battlefield in Pennsylvania on Nov. 19. Seventy-four years ago Lincoln, in dedicating this field to the heroic, READ his address from a single sheet of paper in about ten minutes to a very silent and somewhat grief - stricken audience. Some 3,814 Union soldiers occupied the graves near the spot where Lincoln spoke. Here marked the turning point in the battle between North and South; here through a fatal error in military judgment, General Lee was turned back with his Confederate forces, never to recover from the heavy losses.

Mr. Harper

The great battle had been fought on July 1-3, 1863, and the November occasion was chosen to make this spot a national military shrine. It was not regarded so, for some strange reason, until 1895, and only recently, 1933, was Gettysburg's field transferred to the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. The spot where Lincoln stood to deliver his memorable address at the dedication on Nov. 19, 1863, is now marked by a monument.

He was introduced by Prof. Edward Everett of Harvard University. Everett spoke for almost an hour. He was regarded then as one of the greatest orators on the American platform. The journals of that day, reporting the event, printed Everett's address in full, requiring almost two columns. Lincoln's speech, regarded then as "rather disappointing," occupied only about four inches of space. When Everett finished speaking the applause was thunderous, but when Lincoln's address ended there was only a slight ripple of handclapping. No one today remembers a word Professor Everett uttered, but the whole world is still reciting Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. It has been translated into every language. It hangs in every schoolhouse. college and library, yet, it contradicts what Lincoln himself predicted in it: "The world will little note, nor long remember what we SAY here, but it can never forget what they did here..." The world hasn't forgotten what was SAID at Gettysburg, but it has surely regarded with some indifference what our Union soldiers did there.

22 Defender

SOME years had gone by—after Lincoln's death—when a controversy arose as to whether he spoke extemporaneously or read his famous address. Many contended that the President held the lapel of his coat with his right hand as he spoke without manuscript; others contend that he read from a small sheet of paper. Mathew Brady, the old Civil War photographer, failed to get a snapshot of the President when he was addressing the crowd, and this further complicated matters. However, Brady was quoted by one of his partners as saying he failed to get Lincoln speaking because the President held the paper from which he was "reading" his address so close to his face that it would have marred the picture. We haven't Brady's actual words for this, only hearsay from one of his photographers. So the controversy raged on until a colored author, Dr. John E. Washington, issued a book in 1942 under the title, "They Knew Lincoln," published by E. P. Dutton & Co., of New York. It was a compilation of the careers of Negroes who had served Lincoln and many who had come into contact with the President's family during his terms in the White House. It is one of the most interesting books on Lincoln's life written from the Negro's interest.

Herein we find the account of Lincoln's most intimate helper, his valet, William Slade, a Negro, who was regarded as well-educated for those times. The story of the Gettysburg Address was told by Slade to his daughter, Katherine Slade, who passed it on to Dr. Washington who for years had been collecting Lincoln lore. When Lincoln went to Gettysburg, he took Slade with him, as he did on all of his out-of-town missions. Miss Slade stated that her father was very, very close to the President and spent hours upon hours with him. Often, she said, her father told her the President would write something "and try it out on him."

Slade, he considered the ordinary person of intelligence, and what "sounded good" to him should also please the multitude of common folk to which Lincoln was appealing. Miss Slade declared that many were the conferences that her father held with the President in his darkest hours. Dr. Washington tells of the Gettysburg event thusly:

Chicago, Ill.

"When the Presidential party arrived at Gettysburg, Pa., Nov. 18 1863. for the dedication services that night Lincoln kept Slade with him at the Wills House to render any assistance he might need. After receiving instructions as to what he was expected to say when his time came to speak at the dedication ceremony, the President locked himself in his room with only Slade present. He then began carefully to weigh every thought and carve every word in the address which has become so famous."

Sat. 11-15-47

AFTER writing a sentence or so he would pause and read the piece to Slade. He would then say: "William, how does that sound?" Slade, who by this time was quite a critic, would express his opinion. This went on until all was completed and the President then sent Slade for his secretary and others to hear it. Having received the praise and criticism of his messenger, Lincoln felt that even the most ordinary person would understand his speech. That Slade was alone with Lincoln in the preparation of the address is further confirmed by a Judge David Wills, who had charge of the program that day. He wrote: "... after spending part of the evening in the parlors, he (Lincoln) retired to his room. He had his colored servant, William Slade, with him. Between 9 and 10 o'clock the President sent his servant (Slade) to request me to come to his room. I went and found him with paper prepared to write. ... After a full talk on the subject, I left him." So between Lincoln and Slade, the Gettysburg Address was prepared: one the composer, the other, the listener. It was this final paper that Lincoln READ from on that memorable occasion.

Lincoln autographed five copies of his address: one for the archives at Washington; two for Judge Wills, one for Professor Everett, and one for George Bancroft, the historian.

Manuscript of Lincoln's Kentucky Speech Found

By CARL SANDBURG

Chicago Sun 22

This is the last of a series of articles on the Lincoln documents taken, after 28 years, from a sealed safe at the Library of Congress on July 26—documents bequeathed to the Government by Robert Todd Lincoln, son of the Great Emancipator. Carl Sandburg is a leading Lincoln biographer.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 2.—Some of the students and manuscript hawks in Washington agree that one certain paper, in the handwriting of Abraham Lincoln, stands higher than anything else recently unfolded. Parts of it undoubtedly will go into school readers and textbooks as having political counsel in the conduct of a democracy and shedding light on what he meant at Gettysburg by government of, by and for the people.

Both Nicolay and Hay recorded in notebook and diary a somewhat similar conversational utterance in the same period—and these two secretaries had a rather scrupulous accuracy about what they heard Lincoln say. In the manuscript from Lincoln's own hand, however, we have the idea wrought out more completely and with an exactitude beyond doubt or question. Four pages of manuscript and a small galleyproof sheet identical in style with that of his first inaugural address struck off in Springfield, constitute the document.

Sun. 8/3/47

Visited Kentucky

The President-elect had left his home in Springfield, Ill., in January, 1860, for a visit with friends in Kentucky—and to sound out feeling in that significant border slave state which never did secede, and which sent its many thousands of troops into both the Union and Confederate Armies.

It would seem that he wrote out a speech for Kentuckians that his sense of timing told him not to deliver in its entirety as written. Aside from whatever parts of it he may have delivered, what we have now is Lincoln's own version of his personal theory as to the course of conduct rightly to be followed by a minority-elected President of a republic. In the first half of this speech, he is dealing with the specific situation of his own hour a few weeks before he was to be inaugurated as President, saying:

"I am grateful for the opportunity (sic) your invitation affords me to appear before an audience of my native state. During the present winter, it has been greatly pressed upon me before many patriotic citizens, Kentuckians among others, that I could in my position, by a word forestore peace to the country—But what word? I have many words already before the public; and my position was given me on the faith of those words—Is the desired word to be confirmatory of these; or must it be contradictory to them? If the former, it is useless repetion (sic); if the latter it is dishonorable and treacherous——

"Again, it is urged as if the all—What Kentuckian, worthy of word must be spoken before the his birthplace, would not do this? fourth of March—Why? Is the speaking the word (the word is crossed out) a 'sine qua non' to the inauguration (sic)? Is there a Bell-man, a Breckinridge-man, or a Douglas-man, who would tolerate his own candidate to make such terms, had he been elected? Who amongst you would not Die by the proposition, that your candidate, being elected, should be inaugerated (sic); solely on the conditions of the constitution, and laws, or not at

Gettysburg Address

Documents Agree

For Lincoln students, one point of interest in the foregoing is that it checks so curiously with documents made public years a

from the Oliver R. Barrett c

Sun. 8/3/47

An Annotation

that the administration would suffer by my appointment to an office of the grade of those held by Peck, Wilmot, Fisher, Swett, Ashby and Carter and many other recent appointments."

to your Excellency an appointment to which, I was vain enough to indicate from the letter, as follows: "At the sentence from the letter, as follows: "At the time I was indiscreet enough to

Chicago Sun 22

grown tired of such long-drawn

Kellogg

from

Lincoln had

ary of

hearing

this?

Ken-

tuckian,

I too, am a

held a decidedly different opinion from my own on the or that my political status was

lection in Chicago. Congressman Kellogg, as of April 3, 1861, wrote bitterly in the Executive Mansion of his "humiliation" in the refusal of an appointment by the President. Lincoln, writing on the reverse side of this note: "Mr. Kellogg does me great injustice to write in this strain—he has had more favors than any other Illinois member, not excepting, I think, Judge Trumbull. Is it really in his heart to add to my perplexities now?"

Those acquainted with Abraham Lincoln's vital, garrulous, illiterate, graphic cousin, Dennis Hanks, as revealed in letters and interviews, are interested to find his tone of voice, his backwoods lingo, his capitalization and freedom from punctuation are the same as of yore:

"Aprul 5th 6[illegible] Sun. 8/3/41

"Dere abe I received your Little Check for 50.00 I shoed it to Mother She cried Like a child Abe She is Mity childish heep of truble to us Betsy is very feble and has to wait on hir which ort to have sum person to wait on Hir we are getting old We have a great Many to wait on of our Connections they will cum to see us while we Live . . ."

"Yours Respectefully
"D F Hank"

The farewell speech of Lincoln from a Wabash railroad coach, to his friends and neighbors of his home town of Springfield, Ill., February 11, 1861, we have now in a text as Lincoln himself wanted it.

There have been those who claimed the Nicolay-Hay version omitted a Lincoln reference to his career's being "checkered," with other variants from what was actually spoken. What we have now is not merely the address as partly written by Lincoln, but the writing is the only known specimen of Lincoln's working with a lead pencil on a jolting, careening Wabash train of 1861.

Writing Is Dim

The good Jim Randall helped me in a study of this odd sheet of paper. The familiar Lincoln handwriting, with a lead pencil giving a dim gray more often than clear black, holds these lines:

"No one, not in my situation, can appreciate my feeling of sadness at this parting. To this place, and the kindness of these people, I owe everything. Here I have lived a quarter of a century, and have passed from a young to an old man. Here my children have been born, and one is buried. I now — —" Courier-Journal

And at that point, it would seem that Lincoln tried to write the word "leave," found it too indistinct, ran his pencil through it, and from then on left the writing to Nicolay from dictation, Lincoln speaking the remaining lines of utterly solemn sentence - - - "— — leave, not knowing when, or whether ever, I may return, with a task before me greater than that which rested upon Washington."

The shadow of Robert Todd Lincoln has not grown less by virtue of his decisions as to what he deemed worthwhile of his manuscript possessions to go to posterity. Several with whom I have talked who have been active in ransacking his heritage seem to have gotten better acquainted with the donor, with some manner of increase in affection and respect for him. The previous evidence is definite that he had in his possession letters written by his mother, and he chose to include in his bequest none of these letters. His mother is represented in the collection by one lone example of her writing, with her signature merely initialed. On the back of a telegram notifying President Lincoln and Secretary Stanton of severe injuries received by Secretary Seward in a carriage overturned by runaway horses, Mary Lincoln wrote with a lead pencil:

"We will be
ready to
leave to-morrow eve 6 o'clock
do wait and return with us.
M. L."

•

Nomination Strategy

Parts of the strategy by which Abraham Lincoln was nominated for President in 1860, and the wear and tear on the nerves of all concerned, are highlighted in a series of letters and telegrams now made known in a volume of the heritage gift of President Lincoln's son in the Library of Congress.

"Your chances are tightening," wrote William Butler of Springfield, from the Chicago scene two days before the convention was to open, and, "prospects look bright for you all speak of you as their second choice."

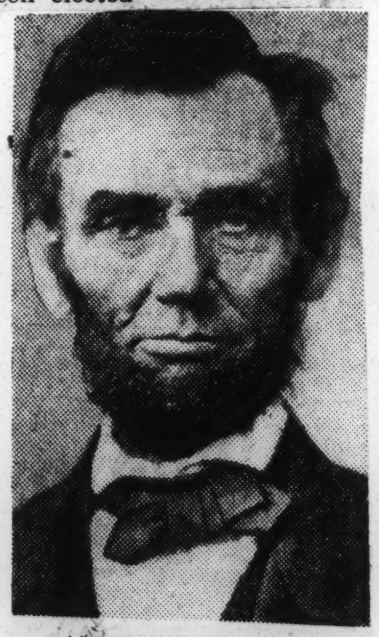
"We are laboring to make you the second choice of all the delegations," wrote N. M. Knapp. "We are dealing tenderly with delegates, taking them in detail and making no fuss. . . . Brace your nerves for any result."

"I understand my friend Kellogg is ill-natured—therefore I do not read his letters.
A. L."

The species of polite importunity and whining balderdash and the Declaration of Independence. The familiar Lincoln script reads: Courier-Journal

"Nor is this a matter of mere personal honor. No man can be elected President without some opponents, as well supporters; and if when elected, he can not be installed, till he first appeases his enemies, by breaking his pledges, and and (sic) betraying his friends, this government, and all popular government, is already at an end—Demands for such surrender, once recognized, and yielded to, are without limit, as to nature, extent, or repetition—They break the only bond of Faith between public, and public servants; and they distinctly set the minority over the majority. Such Demands acquiesced in, would not merely be the ruin of a man, or a party; but as a precedent they would ruin the government itself—

"I do not deny the possibility that the people may err in an election; but if they do the true (cure) is in the next election, and not in the treachery of the person elected—"



Abraham Lincoln
"But what word?"

Chicago DeFender Chicago Ill.

Dustin off the NEWS

Sat. 8-23-47

By ATTY. Wm. E. LILLY

(During Mr. Harper's absence through vacation, several contributed articles will appear in this column. This is the first.)

WHAT IS TAUGHT ABOUT LINCOLN IN OUR COLLEGES

22

Sat. 8-23-47

THE recent release of the state papers, documents and letters of Abraham Lincoln naturally arouses an added interest in this man. Already he is the most interesting figure who has ever appeared on the historic highways of America. Robert Todd Lincoln released his father's papers to the custody of the government in 1926 with the provision that they were to be withheld from inspection for a period of 20 years after his own death, which occurred July 26, 1926. Now, in the year 1947, the American public is in possession of information that gives a clearer understanding of her greatest son.

Wm. E. Lilly

It is understood that a number of men already had an opportunity to see these papers between the years following the death of the President and the taking over of the papers at the act of the son. So, much of their important matter reached the public at large. Americans, generally, will now find a pleasure in getting a close-up of the man.

There is, however, an urgent need that they go further than merely going over these ancient works, which are not generally expected to add greatly to the information already at hand regarding Lincoln. Fortunately, this need has the possibility of solution at this time by some later works now being brought out. A paragraph from "Lincoln Lore," Dr. Warren, editor, gives some indication of a need for a close scrutiny of certain developments that should get the attention of all who are interested in the work accomplished by Abraham Lincoln. The paragraph states this significant fact:

Sat. 8-23-47

"THE majority of the Lincoln authorities on historical procedure have been reared, educated and domiciled in the South, and possibly still further inclined toward the Southern viewpoint by domestic and political affiliations. It is not strange that many of them have turned their attention to the causes of the Civil War, especially those phases with which Lincoln may have been identified."

In this group are some who appear almost heartbroken at the wrongs done by the North to the South. There are others who continue to chant their hymn of hate at this late day against Abraham Lincoln, perhaps the sofest-hearted conqueror who ever wrought the downfall of an enemy in arms. Of course, between these extremes, still others demand the quota of printer's ink.

Two of whom are mentioned at this time for reasons set forth: Dr. Tansill of Texas, domiciled at Georgetown University, draws attention by charging Abraham Lincoln "with dubious intrigue"; also, "that he played fast and loose with the South." And further, he charges him "with in fact, the responsibility for the Civil War." Recalling that the South Carolina group had been brewing this war for 30 years, it looks as if Lincoln might be able to prove an alibi. If this gentleman's university degree was in what he may consider the science of propaganda, there is much reason to feel that he has well-earned his degree, and a loud "Amen!! would be highly fitting.

* * *

DR. JAMES G. RANDALL, an Indianan by birth, but domiciled at the University of Illinois, spent some years in a Virginia university. Possibly this may account for the gentleman being so thoroughly steeped in what he seems to regard as the excellence of Southern culture of the ante-bellum type. It is presumed that he finds no difficulty in teaching the youth at the Illinois university that: "The distinctive flavor of Southern culture was a priceless contribution to American civilization." Probably, too, he may find no difficulty in convincing thinking youth in the state that gave the Emancipator to the world that "matters related to slavery offered no such injury, etc."

Sat. 8-23-47

HE IS obviously quite critical of Lincoln, and thinks that there was very little difference between him and Stephen A. Douglas. Mr. Lincoln thought that "if slavery was not wrong, nothing was wrong," while Mr. Douglas announced many times that he did not care whether slavery was voted up or down. Mr. Lincoln thought that "Douglas was so put together by nature that a blow upon his own back would hurt him, but a blow upon the back of another would not." There are scores of similar statements made by Mr. Lincoln, and never one to the contrary. Mr. Randall does not find space to print them.

He does find space, however, to indicate how he would have corrected Lincoln's supposed errors, and uses some fifty pages to demonstrate what a terrible mistake the President made in not allowing Gen. George McClellan to run the war as he saw fit, even to the extent, as appeared to many military men, of refusing to send aid to another general's army in danger of destruction. And our professor of history at the University of Illinois seems to feel that Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, made a grave error in attempting to send food to United States soldiers who were cooped up at Fort Sumter with a four days' supply of food.

Sat 8-23-47

Both Randall and Tansill, along with the others of this group of literary guerillas, consider this a terrible error on the President's part. If some of the students at such schools come away with a slightly confused idea as to whether Abraham Lincoln or Jefferson Davis was the hero of the Civil War, it is hardly surprising.

Lincoln Papers Show End Slavery Requests

The Black Dispatch Oklahoma City, Okla.

Sat 8-23-47

WASHINGTON (ANP)—Among the vast collection of Abraham Lincoln papers opened to public view by the Library of Congress Saturday to end slavery by emancipating the Negroes, Mr. Lincoln was petitioned as early as 1862 by religious groups in this issue.

Henry Ward Beecher, an ardent abolitionist, urged Mr. Lincoln through telegrams and letters to take extreme measures.

Sat-8-9-47

Communications from the Wisconsin Yearly meeting of the Free Will Baptist in June, 1862, urged immediate emancipation. Addressing the President they said the prayer of 2,500 Christians "all agree that slavery is incompatible with the prosperity of the nation, and a crime against God and man.

Collections are on display from Reformed Presbyterian church in North America, the Society of Friends, Baptists, the Congregational church, Free Will Baptist, the United Order of B'nai B'rith, Methodist, Primitive Methodists, Presbyterians, Shakers, Unitarians, and United Brethren in Christ.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16—Rare pictorial Americana is now on display in the Library of Congress in connection with the exhibit of documents from the Robert Todd Lincoln collection of the papers of Abraham Lincoln.

Sun. 8-17-47

Civil War photographs, lithographs and engravings related to the life of Abraham Lincoln are being exhibited to thousands of persons who have been visiting the library since the Lincoln papers were released from a 21-year restriction of secrecy.

Among the 25,000 prints in this collection there are more than 5,000 lithographs of American life; a large set of negatives by Mathew B. Brady, the famous Civil War photographer and many cartoon rarities depicting every controversial issue in American politics from the French and Indian War to the present.

8-17-47

Pictures of Lincoln's Springfield residence, group portraits of the Lincoln family at home, and Lincoln with members of his Cabinet or military staff were favorite pin-ups of the day, judging from the large numbers of prints on these subjects which were deposited for copyright in the Library of Congress.

Meeting Place Of Abe Lincoln Douglas Is Now Public Shrine

Defender—Chicago Ill. Sat-8-2-47

BEMENT, Ill.—In a ceremony Tuesday, July 22, the state of Illinois was slated to officially take over the white, four-room cottage here in which Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglass held a two-hour conference to plan the famous Lincoln-Douglass debates.

The department of public works and buildings will maintain the house as a public Lincoln shrine under an agreement with the donors to give it perpetual care. Present owners are Mrs. Lily M. Sprague and her son, Bryant Sprague. Mrs. Sprague is a granddaughter of the late Francis E. Bryant, who owned the house when Lincoln and Douglass were there as his guests.

The Lincoln-Douglass conference grew out of a chance meeting of the two men on a Bement street the afternoon of July 29, 1858. Lincoln previously had written Douglass challenging him to a series of debates, but Douglass had not then committed himself.

Met In Street

Sat-8-2-47

As local historians tell the story, Douglass was riding with Bryant in the latter's carriage when they met Lincoln, riding alone in a prairie schooner.

Bryant had established himself in Bement two years previously, building his home and opening Bement's first general store.

When the carriage and the prairie schooner pulled alongside, the opposing candidates for the senatorship saluted each other. Lincoln expressed a wish they could get together soon for a talk about the debate matter. Bryant promptly suggested that the two use his home that night as a meeting place. Both accepted.

When Lincoln knocked on the door that evening, Bryant escorted him to the living room and left him there with Douglass. For two hours the men talked. The following day Douglass wrote Lincoln a formal acceptance of the debate challenge. The seven debates which resulted were held in Ottawa, Freeport, Jonesboro, Charleston, Galesburg, Quincy, and Alton.

Lincoln in Illinois

Henry Villard's Part Recalled in Reporting Farewell Address

The writer of the following letter was for many years publisher and editor of The Nation. He is the author of a number of books, the most recent being "The Disappearing Daily."

Times. New York, N.Y.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:

In your editorial comment on the new Lincoln papers you say: "Among the collection is Lincoln's heavy-hearted farewell to his old friends at Springfield. It is as touching as Washington's farewell to his officers after the Revolution." This must have led many of your readers to assume that this constituted a total new discovery.

Again, in your issue of July 29, Carl Sandburg reports that part of the copy of the farewell speech found in the papers is in Lincoln's handwriting and that the rest was dictated by him to one of his secretaries, Nicolay. Mr. Sandburg declares that "we have now [the speech] in a text as Lincoln himself wanted it," and rejoices that this discovery has put an end to the claim by some that "the Nicolay-Hay text omitted a Lincoln reference to his career being 'checkered' with other variants from what was actually spoken."

Sun. 8-17-47

Both you and Mr. Sandburg have overlooked the fact that the version of the speech which appeared in the press immediately after its delivery was penned by Lincoln himself. There was a New York Herald and Associated Press reporter on the train, Henry Villard by name. He was deeply touched by the farewell that went to Lincoln, told him he had made a wonderfully moving address and asked that Lincoln write it out at once. The modest President-elect's comment was a rather surprised: "Do you think so?" He then immediately complied with the request.

My father was plainly not aware that there had been a stenographer in attendance. The new version is fuller.

If, as probably happened, after writing the first draft for the waiting newspaper man, eager to get it on the wires, Lincoln was then asked by Nicolay or Hay to write it again, it would not be surprising that there were variations in the two texts.

As for the differences in the new text from the old, there are various verbal ones, but none that affect the sense or the moving quality of this utterance. The new version is fuller.

It is certainly true that his report appeared and that he was the only AP man on the train. The Villard version also appeared in "Lincoln on the Eve of '61," published in 1941, a volume containing many of my father's dispatches from Springfield, and no exception has ever been taken to the main facts.

It is probably happened, after

Nicolay and Hay had also made notes of the farewell. But no one has ever questioned the accuracy of his statement that he sent that dispatch—he is pictured in the authoritative history of The Associated Press as so doing.

the crowd at the station and that

Lincoln was so moved when he shook hands with his neighbors in the station that "his face was pale and quivered with emotion so deep as to render him almost unable to utter a single word." That emotion must still have possessed him when he wrote the first draft on what Mr. Sandburg calls the "jolting, careening Wabash train of '61"—which, incidentally, as Henry Villard records, "was driven by a powerful Rogers locomotive" and moved "at the rate of thirty miles an hour."

If there are variations in the texts nothing can, however, alter the spirit that pervades them and renders them immortal.

Explanation of Course to Be Followed by a President Elected by a Minority

By CARL SANDBURG
Famous Lincoln Biographer
Copyright by The Chicago Times News Syndicate

WASHINGTON, July 29—Some of the students and manuscript hawks here agree that one certain paper, in the handwriting of Abraham Lincoln, stands higher than anything else recently unfolded.

LINCOLN MS. ADDS TO POLITICAL IDEAL

Sandburg Sees Light Shed on Meaning at Gettysburg of the 'Of, By and For' Phrase

Times, New York, N.Y.

A SPEECH FOR KENTUCKY

Wed-7-30-47

Parts of it undoubtedly will go into school readers and textbooks as having political counsel in the conduct of a democracy and shedding light on what he meant at Gettysburg by government of, by and for the people.

Both Nicolay and Hay recorded in notebook and diary a somewhat like conversational utterance in the same period—and those two Secretaries had a rather scrupulous accuracy about what they heard Lincoln say. Wed-7-30-47

In the manuscript from Lincoln's own hand, however, we have the idea wrought out more completely and with an exactitude beyond doubt or question. Four pages of manuscript and a small galley proof sheet identical in style with that of his first inaugural address struck off in Springfield, constitute the document.

On a Visit to Kentucky

The President-Elect had left his home in Springfield, Ill., for a visit with friends in Kentucky—and to sound out feeling in that significant border slave state which never did secede and which sent its many thousands of troops into both the Union and Confederate armies.

It would seem that he wrote out a speech for Kentuckians that his sense of timing told him not to deliver in its entirety as written. Aside from whatever parts of it he may have delivered, what we have now is Lincoln's own version of his personal theory as to the course of conduct rightly to be followed by a minority-elected President of a republic.

In the first half of this speech he is dealing with the specific situation of his own hour a few weeks before he was to be inaugurated President, saying:

"I am grateful for the opportunity [sic] your invitation affords me to appear before an audience of my native state. During the present winter it has been greatly pressed upon me by many, many patriotic citizens, Kentuckians among others, that I could in my position, by a word, restore peace to the country—but what word? I have many words already before the public; and my position was given me on the faith of those words—is the desired word to be confirmatory of those; or must it be contradictory to them? If the former, it is useless repetion [sic]; if the latter it is dishonorable and treacherous— Wed-7-30-47

"Again, it is urged as if the word must be spoken before the fourth of March — why? Is the speaking the word a [the word as crossed out] a "sine qua non." to the inaugeration [sic]? Is there a Bell-man, a Breckenridge-man, or a Douglas-man, who would tolerate his own candidate to make such terms, had he been elected? Who amongst you would not die by the proposition, that your candidate, being elected, should be inaugurated [sic], solely on the conditions of the Constitution, and laws, or not at all—what Kentuckian, worthy of his birth place, would not do this? Gentlemen, I too, am a Kentuckian——"

Annotation From Gettysburg

What then follows in this unique address is what will go into various manuals and textbooks dealing with what is termed popular government and republican institutions. You might go so far as to say this is a painfully wrought out annotation to the Gettsburg address and the Declaratiton of Indepedence. The familiar Lincoln script reads:

"Nor is this a matter of mere personal honor. No man can be elected President without some opponents, as well supporters; and if when elected, he can not be installed, till he first appeases his enemies, by breaking his pledges, and and [sic] betraying his friends, this government, and all popular government, is already at an end—Demands for such surrender, once recognized, and yielded to, are without limit, as to nature, extent, or repetition—They break the only bond of faith between public, and public servants; and they distinctly set the minority over the majority. Such demands acquiesed in, would not merely be the ruin of a man, or a party; but as a precedent they would ruin the government itself—

"I do not deny the possibility that the people may err in an election; but if they do the true cure is in the treachery of the person elected." Wed-7-30-47

Medill Letters Uncovered

The Midwest political tumult, the vehmence and tension of the times, stand out from two communications sent to Lincoln by Joseph Medill, editor of the Chicago Press & Tribune. The first of these is a lead pencil memorandum covering two sides of a long narrow sheet of paper. It was enclosed in an envelope addressed to Abraham Lincoln, Free port, Ill. With the word "present written large, the inference being that Medill was in the audienc that was to hear Lincoln an Douglas debate and he was sen ing greetings and counsel as follows: Wed-7-30-47

(1 Friend Lincoln

"Don't forget to draw a strong picture of the tanacity with which Dug clings to the decission that deprives the people of the right of self-Government.

"Make short work of his nigger equality charges by telling him that he don't believe what he says, that the people don't believe it & that it is humbug, slang and trash, uttered to deceive the ignorant and swindle foolish men out of their votes.

"Remember, that you have good backing today, and the more saucy you are the better. For once leave modesty aside. You are dealing with a bold, brazen, lying rascal & you must 'fight the devil with fire.'

"[Pointing hand] Give Dug a rip on his forging a state platform on you. He spent an hour at Galena trying to roll the blame of Charley Lamphere. Let him consume his time chewing on the same cud.

"Dug claimed that the Republican members of the Legislature of 54-55 voted for no more slave states—Resolutions, Trumbull told Dug in the Senate that that was not the action of the party in the state which was not formed until May 26, 1856 at BBloomington, & no state platform has taken that position, because it would be a mere offsenive useless obstruction keep the territories clear & there will never be any more slave states, which is the same result, done by a proper method."

At the left of the paragraph beginning "give Dug," Medill drew with his pencil a large hand with pointing finger. Wed-7-30-47

The other Medill communication is a two-page letter dated Chicago, Sept. 10, 1859 at "office Chicago Press & Tribune, 51 Clark Street" and at the left margin indicated "Confidentialy" addressed to "A. Lincoln, Dr Sir," it reads:

"I send you Douglas' late speech in Columbus, Ohio. You will see the new grounds he takes and the new coloring he gives to his old dogmas. I observe that you are invited to make speeches in Columbus & Cincinnati; you will draw big crowds and be well received. I know the Buckeyes well—being raised in that state.

"Do not consider me presumptuous for offering a suggestion or two, viz: As you are not a candidate you can talk out boldly as you please. There is no Egypt in Ohio. Any doctrine you can teach in Bloomington will take in Columbus, Cincinnati is nearly as radical as Chicago. They were willing to obey the fugitive law but want it repealed or modified and have so declared in their platform.

Ohio much service, as it will break than the Buckeyes. I strides the doctrine of opening the ne word more of ad- r, viz: Go in boldly. African slave tradeis making. The Northern democracy are sore on ght from the shoulder that score." the belt as well as ick like thunder. "Yours in Haste, 0-47 "J. MEDILL."

written along the side ter:] describe the alarming

"Don't act on the defensive, but the back of the democratic pre- pitch hot shot into the hulk of these. You made some strong doughface and pro-slavery democ- points in your Chicago speech a that subject in our today's paper. spirit of liberty was capital. Look racy. Rake down the swindling year ago on the drift and ten- If you will lay bare the fraud, de- over that speech again. Do not fail pretension of Douglas that his dency of the principles of the de- to get off some of your "anecdotes Kansas Nebraska bill guarantees mocracy, and the duty of patriots of-permits popular sovereignty. We to resist the aggressions of the oli- have made a leading article on garchy your peroration to the that subject in our today's paper. spirit of liberty was capital. Look If you will lay bare the fraud, de- over that speech again. Do not fail lusion and shame of squatter sov- to get off some of your "anecdotes ereignty, you will do our cause in- bits" No people relish such

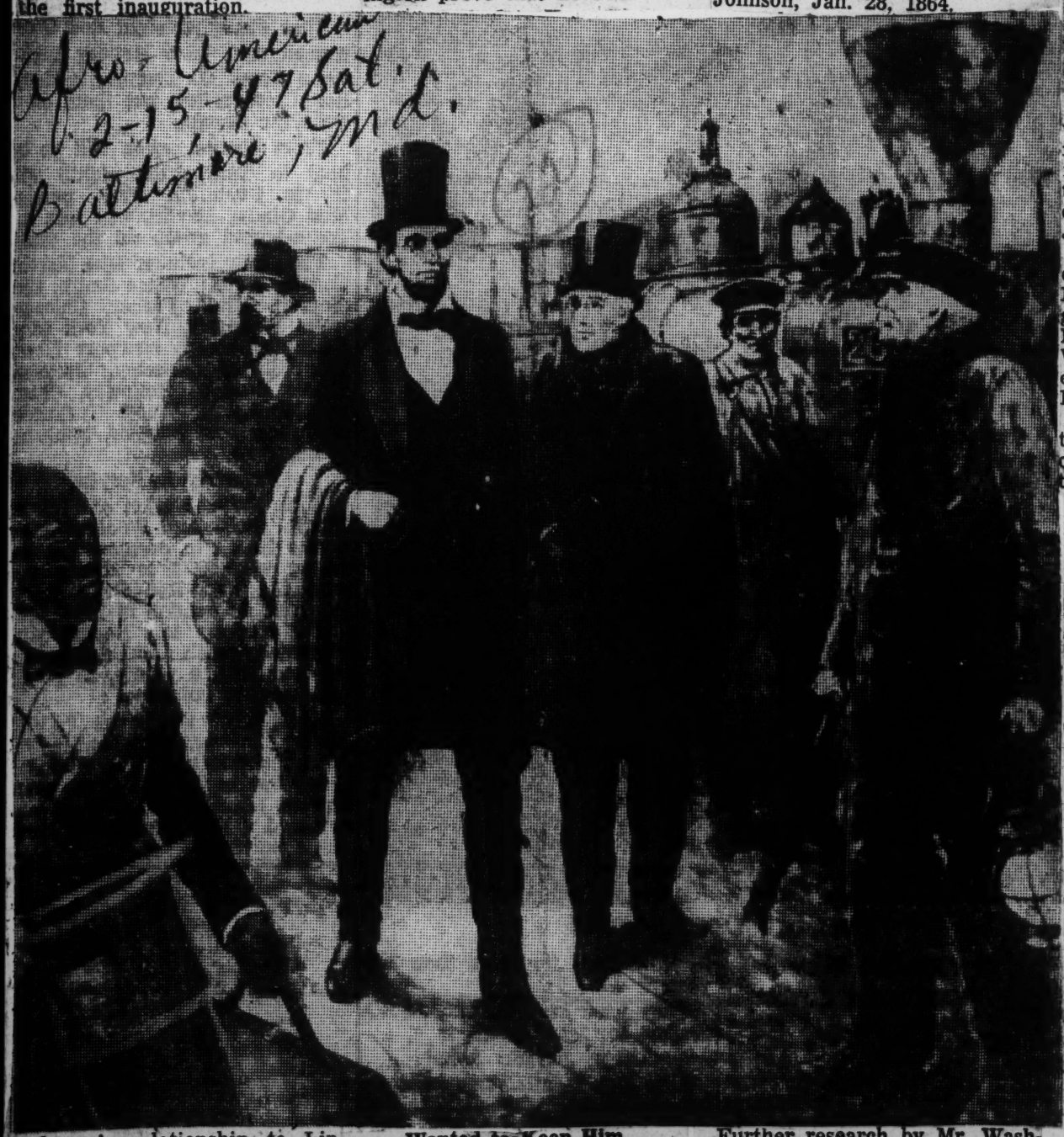
Lincoln's 1st Bodyguard Brought from Springfield

Afro-American 2-15-47 Baltimore, Md.

Disliked by Other White House Workers, William Johnson Landed Job in Treasury

NEW YORK — The first bodyguard of Abraham Lincoln was a colored man, William Johnson, who accompanied the Great Emancipator along the secret route from Springfield, Ill., to Washington for the first inauguration.

Johnson was on the train when Lincoln left Springfield, according to Mr. Washington, but Lincoln's letters along with a photograph showing the Presidential party upon the arrival in Washington prove that he was.



Johnson's relationship to Lincoln is told by John E. Washington in his book, "They Knew Lincoln."

It was not generally known that Lincoln planned originally to have Johnson continue his personal service to him in the White House.

However, because of the antagonism of other help there to Johnson, who was much darker than him employment elsewhere.

Because several recommendations brought no fruit immediately, Johnson was retained at the White House where he tended the furnace at $50 a month.

Gets Federal Job

Lincoln's ultimate success was disclosed through the chance discovery of the official file on one Solomon Johnson, who was appointed a laborer in the Treasury Department to fill a vacancy caused by the death of William Johnson, Jan. 28, 1864.

Wanted to Keep Him

Lincoln, who was a carpetbagger inasmuch as he carried a valise made of the carpet material popular in his day, had Further research by Mr. Washington led to letters exchanged by Mr. Lincoln and Treasury officials, and finally to the notice of the appointment of Johnson as a laborer on Nov. 30, 1861, at a salary of $600 a year. 2-15-47 Sat.

Still other letters written by the President show that he tried constantly to help the man he had brought from Illinois earn more money to help support his steadily increasing family.

COTTAGE A LINCOLN SHRINE

Time Mag. 7-28-47 Wed-7-30-47

Scene of Talk With Douglas Is Taken Over by Illinois

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BEMENT, Ill., July 29—About 700 persons attended ceremonies today at which the historic Bryant Cottage in which Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas arranged to hold their famed debates was taken over by the State Department of Public Works and Buildings. Today was the eighty-ninth anniversary of the meeting.

Present today was a man to whom Lincoln talked the day before his meeting with Douglas. He is "Judge" James Smith, 92, a retired justice of the peace at Monticello, where Lincoln made a speech July 28, 1878. Wed-7-30-47

Mayor Edward C. Kanitz introduced the donor of the cottage, Mrs. Lily M. Sprague. She is a granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Francis E. Bryant, cousins of William Cullen Bryant and owners of the house when Lincoln and Douglas were guests.

George W. Williams, superintendent of the State Department of Parks and Memorials, accepted the cottage for the state.

PROTECTION FOR PRESIDENTS

The Lincoln Museum in Washington is now in possession of a set of heavy iron knuckles said to have been worn and carried by President Lincoln during the last leg of his journey from Springfield, Ill., to Washington.

President Lincoln, however, had more than knuckles on that trip to take office in Washington prior to his inauguration March 1, 1861. He had received word that rebels in Baltimore would be on the lookout to assassinate him when he got off in that city to change trains for Washington.

So, in addition to the knuckles, he is understood to have disguised himself with a plaid cap and a pair of eye shields or dark glasses and to have carried a dirk.

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. 2-15-47 Sat.

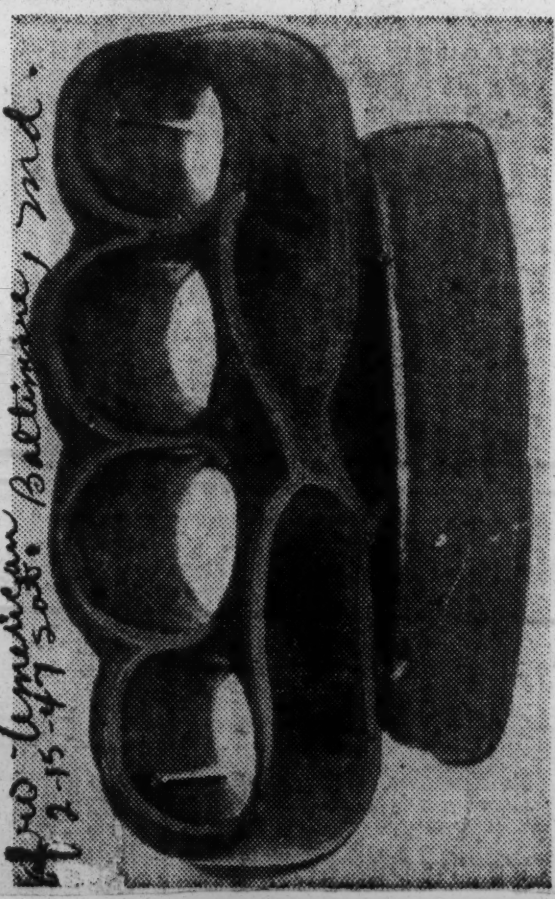


Photo Courtesy National Park Service

While most of his photos during the campaign show him to be clean-shaven, Lincoln grew a set of chin whiskers. So fearful of his assassination were the President's guards that one of them slept in bed with him.

The point about the whole business is the indication that

Lincoln never was properly protected after his election. This is borne out by the fact that he was finally shot while attending a theatrical performance. 2-15-47 Sat.

We have learned a lot since Lincoln's day: witness the fact that President Roosevelt traveled all over the globe during the world war in which millions of enemies would have given anything to get a close-up shot at him, and still only one attempt was made upon his life.

Different Version of Lincoln Story

Courier-Journal

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal:

In the Washington Merry-Go-Round appears a yarn described as a "rare Lincoln story." It has frequently been remarked that Pearson and Allen are nimble with facts. On many occasions, if this column had been accused of truth, its words would stand up and prove an alibi. The late President Roosevelt said the same thing in language more pointed and picturesque.

The substance of this tale is that while Lincoln was President, Secretary Seward passed by Lafayette Park late one summer night and was accosted by the British Ambassador, who had been locked in during a rendezvous with the wife of the Spanish Ambassador. Seward rushes to the White House, explains the situation to Lincoln and, at the President's suggestion, obtains a ladder, and the Ambassador and his companion climb over the fence safely and secretly.

On October 18, I wrote my friend, Mr. Justice Stanley Reed, of the Supreme Court, and told him I had heard of the story, but without the salacious embellishments of Mr. Allen's column. I related it as follows:

"One evening during the war years, Lincoln was walking toward the White House when he heard someone shouting from the vicinity of Lafayette Park, across the street, which was at that time surrounded by a high fence. On investigation the President found that a young attache of one of the legations had been enjoying the moonlight on a bench with his sweetheart and, unaware of the hour, had been locked in. When the President became aware of the couple's predicament, he hurried back to the White House, and came back with a step-ladder, which relieved the situation forthwith."

I received a reply from Justice Reed saying, "I talked to Justice Murphy about this matter and he tells me he did hear the story substantially as given by you."

And so we may observe how stories can be twisted by persons who yearn for the sensational and how the gossip of today, if not repudiated, may become the history of tomorrow.

Lexington, Ky. WILLIAM H. TOWNSEND.

LINCOLN WAS INDIFFERENT

A Trenton, N. J., man has been released from a mental hospital after 20 years of unjustifiable confinement. He said his was "a case of hating a great evil like Abe Lincoln hated slavery."

In the circumstances the man is certainly to be forgiven for getting his history wrong, but if he had spent his entire 20 years in trying to make a maximum mistake, he could not have surpassed that which he uttered ignorantly.

Lincoln was an opportunist with respect to slavery as Roosevelt was, say, an opportunist with respect to collaboration with French Admiral Darlan. Lincoln wanted to preserve the Union; FDR wanted to preserve the lives of American warriors on African beaches.

Here is what Lincoln said—incidentally in a letter to Editor Horace Greeley—about his "hatred" of slavery in the second year of the South'e rebellion:

My paramount object in this struggle is to save the Union, and is not either to save or destroy slavery.

If I could save the Union without freeing any slave I would do it. And if I could save it by freeing all the slaves, I would do it. And if I could save it by freeing some and leaving others alone, I would also do that.

What I do about slavery and the colored race, I do because I believe it helps to save the Union. And what I forbear, I forbear because I do not believe it would help to save the Union.

Lincoln was patently working both sides of the street, for he was doing all things possible to lure the border states into military alliance with the Original Government in the United States or, failing that, to prevent their alliance with the Other Government in the United States.

It was not until the third year of the war that Lincoln issued his Emancipation Proclamation. And a proclamation freeing slaves held by a power that seemed to threaten Washington was a rather meaningless gesture.

And even when freed, it was Lincoln's conception that the South would be compensated and that the freed fellaheen would be placed in a "colony." For like other men of his time, Lincoln lacked the imagination and comprehension to see the colored man in any but the circumstance of a servant class indentured to the white man.

Could Lincoln return to earth to split the unfinished portion of his rails these 87 years later, he would be amazed at the progress the Negro has made. He would be even more amazed—no discredit to his vision—to see a state in the Deep South such as Alabama, straining its back to pay taxes to train the colored man to fulfill his obviously great potentialities as an American citizen.

BILLY ROSE

Constitution

A Tale About Lincoln

Atlanta, Ga.

There's a watchmaker down in Greenwich Village who has been around watches so long he darn near chimes every half hour. Any time I need a little column ammunition, I crack the crystal of a two-buck wristwatch and take it down to him. By the time he has fixed it, I generally have enough material to ink up my quota of white space.

The other afternoon, the old watchmaker told me a story which I didn't quite believe. Its trick ending was too pat. But the periodical room at the Forty-second Street Library backed him up. In The Literary Digest of April 14, 1926, the watchmaker's story was documented by Dr. Charles A. Moore, head of the Manuscript Department of the Library of Congress.

"IT HAPPENED in 1862," was how the watchmaker began the tale. "The second year of the war. A Harvard student walked into the Jersey City railroad station and asked for a ticket to Washington. The agent told him there was none left—most of the space had been reserved for soldiers. The youth pleaded for a seat on the train—said he only had a five-day vacation and was anxious to see his folks in the Capital. He seemed like a nice kid and the ticketman felt sorry for him. He told him to wait out on the platform and, if there was a cancelation, he'd bring the ticket to him.

"The young man set his bag down near the edge of the platform and leaned up against one of the coaches. Suddenly the train gave a jerk and started moving along the track. The student was thrown off balance. He clawed at the side of the coach as he fell, but there was nothing to hold on to. It seemed certain he was going under the wheels."

As the watchmaker finished the sentence, an assortment of bongs, chimes and bells announced it was three o'clock.

The old man smiled paternally at his little friends for their promptness. "Just as the kid was about to be chewed up by the wheels," he continued, "a hand reached out from the train window above him, grabbed his coat collar, and pulled him back to his feet. At that moment the agent came running out with a ticket and the youth got on the train. The man who had saved him had disappeared into one of the other cars. Some passengers dusted the student off and congratulated him on his narrow escape.

Constitution

"WHEN the boy got over the shakes, he went looking for the man, found him and told him how grateful he was. They introduced themselves. The man who had saved his life was Edwin Booth, the famous actor. The Harvard student was Robert Todd Lincoln."

Atlanta Ga

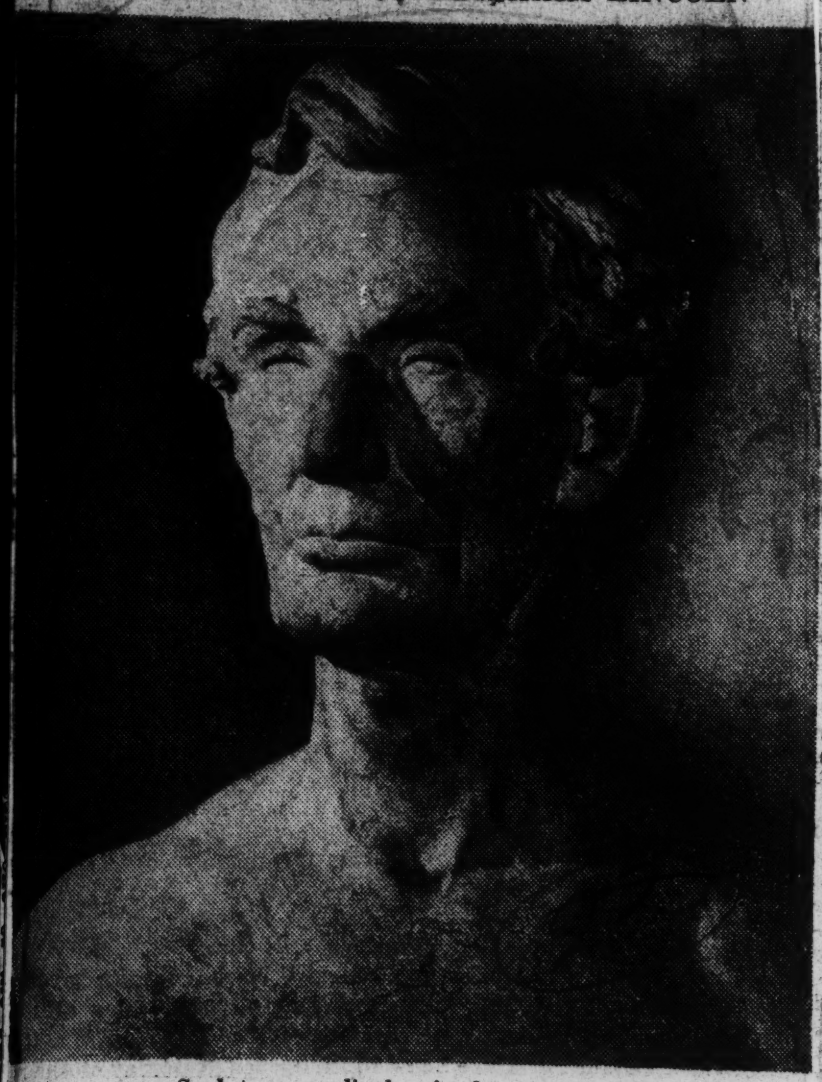
By this time, the old boy had finished working on my watch. He wound it, put it to this ear, and smiled happily as he heard it tick.

"Of course you know the rest of the story," said the watchmaker. "A few years later, a great man was sitting in a theater box in Washington. A half-crazed actor slipped past the guards and shot him. The next morning, April 15, 1865, the great man died. He was Abe Lincoln, Robert Todd's father. The fellow who shot him was John Wilkes Booth, Edwin's brother."

22 1947

Lincoln

AN EARLY BUST OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN



Sculpture on display in downtown shop

The New York Times Studio

The New York Times — N.Y., N.Y.

Tue-7-29-47

First Bust of Abraham Lincoln Exhibited in Canal Street Shop

In a confusion of scattered books, prints, pottery and paintings an 1860 plaster bust of Abraham Lincoln, said to be the first for which the future emancipator ever sat, went on display with other Lincolniana in the Roberts Book Store, 384 Canal Street.

The sculptor was Leonard W. Volk, whose life mask of Lincoln in the Smithsonian Instiution in Washington. Mr. Volk used the life mask to supplement Lincoln's sittings for the bust.

A copy of the mask, an 1849 faded photograph taken of Lincoln while in Congress, a plaster cast of Lincoln's right hand, made soon after he had received the nomination for the Presidency, and engravings and lithographs made during his term in office are other items in the Canal Street exhibit.

Copies of the first Lincoln sculpture were made in some numbers and several are in existence, it was said yesterday.

The bust in the bookstore was acquired by its owner, Henry C. Roberts, about twenty years ago in a Salvation Army storeroom. He paid $5 for it. Since then, he said yesterday, he has been studying the life of Lincoln and collecting Lincolniana. He plans to present his collection to a public institution.

An account of the sittings for the bust, in Chicago, written by the sculptor shortly after Lincoln became President, quotes the subject as saying:

"Mr. Volk, I have never sat before to sculptor or painter, only for daguerreotypes and photographs. What shall I do?"

The artist took measurements of Lincoln's head and shoulders and on the following day early in April, 1860, the mask was made. This saved several sittings.

Five Days of Sitting

For five days Lincoln sat for his portrait in clay, bounding up to the fifth-floor studio two and three steps at a time. According to the artist, the sitter talked unceasingly but eschewed politics. He is reported to have declared that "I am bored nearly every time I sit down to a public dining table by some one pitching into me on politics."

At the last sitting the head was finished and the artist decided to complete the work with his subject's neck and chest bared. Lincoln stripped to the waist and posed for an hour or more. The sitting over, he hurried off, saying he had an engagement. In a few moments he was back, however, exclaiming:

"Hello, Mr. Volk? I got down on the sidewalk and found I had forgotten to put on my undershirt, and thought it wouldn't do to go through the streets this way."

The long sleeves of his undershort that he had pulled down and had tied behind him were dangling below the skirts of his broadcloth frock coat.

The cast of Lincoln's hands was made the day after he had been notified of his nomination. The artist asked that something be held, so Lincoln went out to the woodshed, sawed off a piece of broomhandle and came back, whittling it.

"I thought I would like to have it nice," he said.

The 1849 photograph, a campaign picture, has its back covered with inscriptions and the names of various owners. According to one inscription, the photograph was presented on Nov. 6, 1860, the day Lincoln was elected to the Presidency, by Pole Lewis, a descendent of George Washington. Mr. Lewis gave it to John A. Hancock, who owned a cafe on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington where politicians foregathered.

The picture hung there for fifty years. When the cafe was torn down Mr. Hancock gave it to the Shakesperian actor, James W. Carhart. In a sale of Mr. Carhart's effects after his death in 1937, Mr. Roberts acquired it for $20.

'Abe Will Run Away,' Letter Averred in '61

Atlanta Constitution

Atlanta, Ga., 8/3/47 Sun.

Recent publication of the Lincoln papers prompted T. G. Phillips, 1410 McLendon Ave., N. E., to dig up his own "paper" of the same period—a yellow, ragged-edged letter in which his great-grandfather expressed belief that "old Lincoln" would "run away."

Penned in May, 1861, by Martin Phillips, "a strong Confederacy man," the letter was written in Anderson, S. C., and addressed to Phillips' son, James Phillips, in Hall County, Georgia.

"The war news is very high here at this time," Martin Phillips wrote, "but I don't believe there will be any fighting, for old Lincoln has begged for 60 days. I think that he is getting ready to run away."

Regarding "The Cause," Phillips stated:

"I am a strong Confederacy man. I am well pleased with it that I am ready to go in the defense of my country at any hour warning and my money is ready to help fix the government there. I anticipate that we will have a government that the Yankees cannot overthrow. I am so well pleased with the Southern Institutions that I am ready to go in defense of my country at an hour's warning, and my money is also ready to help the government."

Phillips told his son of having just visited Columbia, S. C., where

T. G. Phillips, of Atlanta, owns this historic letter.

May 23, 1861

South Carolina
Anderson District

Dear son and daughter I take this time to inform you that we are all well at this time and hope these few lines may find you all well. Moses is not as well as he has been. wheat looks as fine as ever I saw it corn is small cotton is just up I am done planting and have worked over fifteen acres I was in Columbia the first of this month at a meeting of the stock holders of the Columbia and greenville rail road I saw two thousand two hundred volunteers musterin in the city all at the same time the war news is very high here at this time but I dont belive there will be any fighting for old lincoln has beged for 60 days I think that he is getting ready to run away times is hard here in money matters corn is tolerable plenty it is worth one dollar per bushel bacon is worth 15 cts pr pound flour 4 cts pr pound there is several of our neighbors volunteered and gone in to the army some of them I will name first thompson Wyatt John Labron and joseph james Martin and andrew and Ephraim Dick David owens and joshua and and a great many more that I could name at this time

They harry him in Columbia at this pinbecks I am a strong Confederacy man I am well pleased with the Southern institutions and Southern people have done I anticipate that we will have a government that the yankeys can not overthrow I am so well pleased with it that I am ready to go in the defence of my country at any hour warning and my money is ready to help fix the government there is one thing I have to regret and that is one of our volunteers is dead george fortune he was the first that volunteer in the regiment, and the first that died

Mart till Phillips
Mary Phillips
and
Mr James Phillips

ne was attending a meeting of the stockholders of the Columbia and Greenville Railroad.

"I saw 2,200 volunteers mustering in the city, all at the same time," he related. "There is several of our neighbors volunteered and gone to the army. Some of them I will name, Thompson Wyatt, John Laboon, and Joseph James Martin and Andrew and Ephraim and Dick and David Owens and Joshua, and a great many more than I could name. They have bin in Columbia about five weeks."

Phillips complained that "times is hard here in money matters." But the present-day housewife probably would have welcomed the prices he quoted.

"Corn is tolerable plenty," he commented. "It is worth one dollar per bushel. Bacon is worth 15 cents per pound. Flour four cents per pound."

As for the crops, he wrote: "Wheat looks as fine as ever I saw it. Corn is small. Cotton is just up. I am done planting, and have worked over 15 acres."

Phillips concluded his letter on a dire note. "Religion," he lamented, "is at a low ebb amongst all denominations at this time."

T. G. Phillips, retired Union Stationmaster, observed that his great-grandfather's letter was written without any punctuation or paragraphing—and the grammar is not perfect. But Phillips is proud of the two-page, carefully penned document—and believes its value will increase.

Lincoln Policies Received Impress of Potent Editors

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1—(UP)—Some of the most influential newspaper editors of the last century helped shape the political theories and presidential policies of Abraham Lincoln, his papers disclosed Thursday.

More than 200 letters from outstanding editors and publishers were found in the recently-opened Lincoln collection at the Library of Congress. Their signatures read like a who's who of American journalism in the period of the War Between the States.

One of Mr. Lincoln's greatest friends was Joseph Medill, who became Editor of the Chicago Tribune in 1854. His letters usually are marked "personal" or "private and confidential" and are full of political analysis.

Medill is credited with proposing the name "Republican" for the party and with instigating the Lincoln landslide at the first Republican National Convention.

In 1860, Medill tried to get the support of James Gordon Bennett of the New York Herald for Mr Lincoln. He wrote Mr. Lincoln that he understood Bennett was "not unwilling to bicker." Medill also wrote that Bennett's "affirmative help is not of great importance, but he is powerful for mischief."

After the War Between the States, Bennett supported Mr. Lincoln, but not all the time. Prior to hostilities, he favored letting the South secede to avoid war.

Mr. Lincoln at one time offered Bennett the post of Minister to France but he declined because he considered himself too old and because "I can be of more service to the country in the present position I occupy."

Horace Greeley, famed Editor of the New York Tribune, supported Mr. Lincoln when he considered the President's policies were in line with his own program. He criticized the President in 1858 for what he termed Mr. Lincoln's conciliatory attitude toward slavery.

Lincoln Scholars Meet at Capital For End of Secrecy Ban on Papers

WASHINGTON, July 25 (AP)—Historians and scholars gathered at the Library of Congress tonight for the long-awaited opening of the Robert Todd Lincoln collection of the papers of Abraham Lincoln.

Robert Lincoln's ban of secrecy on the documents he collected at the White House after his father's assassination will expire at midnight and Luther H. Evans, Congressional Librarian, will open the historic collection.

Then library specialists, assisted by some fifteen other Lincoln authorities, will begin a selection of the materials representative of the more important documents. The vast collection contains an estimated 15,000 to 20,000 papers.

The library will make a report of their findings at noon tomorrow.

Dr. Evans will formally present the papers to the American people at an afternoon ceremony in the library tomorrow. Attending the ceremony will be Robert Lincoln Beckwith of Washington, D. C., great-grandson of Abraham Lincoln. Roy B. Basler, executive secretary of the Abraham Lincoln Association at Springfield, Ill., will be the principal speaker.

In 1923, Robert Lincoln presented the collection to the Library with the stipulation that it "be preserved from the public inspection or private view until the expiration of twenty-one years after my death." He died July 26, 1926.

In making the bequest to the Library, Robert Lincoln said:

"This condition is imposed by me because said papers contain many references to immediate ancestors of persons now living which in my judgment should not be made public.

It has been suggested that the papers may contain previously unrevealed evidence, or charges, of treasonable activity by high officials in the Government who opposed Lincoln's war policies. Also some persons have said the documents may throw more light on Lincoln's efforts, or alleged lack of efforts, to prevent war.

However, Lincoln scholars generally doubt that the papers will provide any large-scale sensation. They think it likely the collection will contain some letters written by people who were angry with the President.

Microfilm reproductions of both the papers and the index of them will be sold to anyone wishing to purchasing them.

Lincoln Wanted Friendship With Russia, Letters Reveal

WASHINGTON, (ANP) — Abraham Lincoln was anxious to develop a friendly relationship between the United States and Russia. This was revealed through letters of the Robert Todd Lincoln collection, recently opened to public view at the Library of Congress.

Mr. Lincoln asked Bayard Taylor, then secretary of the American legation in Russia, to lecture to the American people on Russia. In a letter dated 1862, the President asked Mr. Taylor to make a comparison of the American and Russian policy toward the emancipation of slaves.

In his reply to the President, Mr. Taylor stated, "My own short experience has satisfied me that no country (except, perhaps, our own) has been so misrepresented as Russia.

Cited Emancipation There

"There are only slight resemblances between Russian serfdom and slavery in the Southern States, although they rest on the same basis—property in man—but the complete success of the scheme of emancipation in Russia has much significance for this nation at the present time."

In an earlier letter to Secretary of State William H. Steward, Taylor had expressed a desire to do a comprehensive work on Russia.

"My principal claim is, simply the profound interest which I feel in Russia, her people, her present development, and her position with regard to the other great powers of the world—" he wrote.

"The information which I am now gradually acquiring cannot fail to be of great value to the Government of the United States in its future and possibly still more intimate relations with that of his imperial majesty."

LINCOLN MYTH

Editor, The Advertiser:

A recent coincidence attracts attention. Carl Sandburg, perhaps the foremost among those who have succeeded in the deification of Abraham Lincoln, visits Montgomery. On the same day there appeared The Alabama Lawyer featuring an address on Jefferson Davis delivered in Washington by Dr. Charles C. Tansill, professor of American history at Georgetown University, a Ph.D from Johns Hopkins, lecturer at Johns Hopkins, author of numerous historical works, and a recognized authority on American history.

It is just possible that there may be some who do not see The Alabama Lawyer and who will be interested in certain of Dr. Tansill's observations regarding Davis, Lincoln, and the issues of War Between the States. We quote one of two.

Regarding the issue of secession: "William Lloyd Garrison, Wendell Phillips and John Brown were the real secessionists of the ante-bellum period, and sparks from their anvil of hate flew into the utterances of so-called statesmen like Lincoln and Seward. . . . In spirit, these Northern leaders had already seceded from the Union of the founding fathers, and they were preparing for its demise."

Regarding the Mexican War: "Lincoln was more of a politician than a patriot. . . . When he was not engaged in speechmaking that shocked the people back home and prevented his re-election (to Congress), he idled away the hours in the House post office by telling characteristic stories whose humor was as broad as the taste of the House members would permit. He belonged to that numerous group of Whigs who were invincible in peace and invisible in war. In contrast with these dubious performances of Mr. Lincoln, Jefferson Davis was quick to catch the accents of duty when his country called men to arms. . . . At Monterey he fought with a gallantry that attracted the attention of the nation."

Regarding the War Between the States: "Lincoln declared at Springfield that the American government could not endure half slave and half free. This statement was equivalent to a declaration of war against the South. . . . Did he propose some statesmanlike plan that had possibilities for permanent peace? The sad answer is that Lincoln did nothing to quiet the growing friction that pointed toward war, and he bears a heavy responsibility for his inaction when calm, fair-minded counsel might have stilled the rising winds of conflict. . . . Indirectly he did give some counsel to his friends, and his words had only one meaning—he was moving toward war."

Regarding the South's negotiations for peace: "The dubious intrigue that preceded the firing upon Fort Sumter does not have to be rehearsed here. To many minds it is clear that Lincoln deliberately played fast and loose with representatives of the South in order to trick them into a bombardment of that famous fort. If that could be accom-

s P. O. Box 708, Montgomery, Ala.

ama Lawyer
reveling Sandburg and in the Lincoln myth.

RALPH McGILL

The Lincoln Papers Are Opened

The Atlanta Const. Atlanta Ga. Mon. 7/28/47

It was a curious thing—opening the letters of a man long dead—a man who had traveled from a log cabin in Kentucky, with a clay floor and mud-chinked walls, to the White House.

But the Lincoln papers deposited with the Library of Congress by Robert Lincoln, only one of Abraham Lincoln's children to grow to full manhood, now are public.

There had been much discussion about them, and some of it was fantastic. Perhaps, as they say, the gaunt, sad man, with the greatest share of patience ever given one person, had loved Ann Rutledge. But he hardly would have written of it in later years. If his heart was in the grave with Ann Rutledge, he hardly would have plucked it forth to wear on his coat or deposit on paper.

Robert Robert Lincoln was a reticent man, but of great feelings. His father had patiently endured the slanders of the evil persons who wrote him vile and obscene letters about himself and his wife. Indeed, many of these letters never got to him. His secretaries took them and some of them will be made public within the next year or so by Helen Nicolay, who has completed a biography of her father, John Nicolay, Secretary to Lincoln.

7/28/47

Robert Lincoln withdrew from the world, perhaps because the world or the fates dealt him many emotional blows. He endured his father's assassination and the turbulent aftermath. It was his melancholy task to sign the papers committing his poor mother to an institution. Destiny made him an observer of the assassinations of two more Presidents, Garfield and McKinley.

Haunted If he destroyed some letters and documents, it is something easily understood. If he felt haunted and believed that he lived under an evil star, that, too, may be understood.

He withheld these papers, now revealed, until 21 years after his death because publication at that time might have embarrassed descendants of dead persons, and persons living.

One must wonder if, after writing this, he did not withdraw other papers. Because first examination of the thousands of letters and documents has revealed no scandal or any word which would embarrass anyone then living or dead.

They do reveal, again, the enormous patience of the man, and his great kindness and gentleness of spirit.

Mon. 7-28-47

Lee-Lincoln It is a fact that there is much of similarity in the spirit and character of Robert E. Lee and Abraham Lincoln. Both had patience, a high sense of duty, and both were gentle and kind, yet firm and steadfast when duty called. One was patrician and to the manor born. The other came from the frontier of a young, raw country. Destiny was to throw each into the furious furnace of war, revealing many like characteristics. It is quite probable that both were unhappily married, yet both accepted it and if they were not happy, neither the world nor their associates ever knew it by word of complaint or regret from them. To me there is much similarity in their inward selves as revealed by a study of their lives.

Lincoln was the more human man. He liked life and he could put aside his worries and his work, and live and laugh and play. Lee was always reserved, the marble of him cracking only now and then. He was to leave one phrase which has haunted the biographers who have picked at the records of his life: "I've always wanted something," he said, once. And no one yet knows what this man, who was perfection, wanted.

Tom Lincoln In those published documents I have read, none is more touching than that containing a message from the hard-working, toil-worn Tom Lincoln, father of Abraham. He had married a widow named Johnston and her son wrote to Lincoln in 1849:

(May 25, 1849—Letter from John D. Johnston to Abraham Lincoln.).

Friday morning Char—May 25th, 1849.

Dear Brother:

I hast to inform you That father is yet a Live & that is All & he Craves to See you all the time & he wonts you to Come if you ar able to git hure, for you are his only Child that is, of, his own flush & blood & it is nothing more than natere for him to crave to see you, he says he has all most despared of seeing you, & he wonts you to prepare to meet him in the unknown world, or in heven, for he thinks that ower Savour has a Crown of glory, prepared for him I wright this with a bursting hart, I came to town for the Docttor, & I won you to mak and effort Come, if you ar able to get hure, & he wonts me to tell your wife that he Loves hure & wonts hur to prepare to meet him at ower savours feet, we are all well,

Your Brother in hast

J. D. JOHNSTON.

It is a pitiful letter, but one great in humanity and love. It puts to rest, too, the vile gossip that has persisted that Lincoln was born out of wedlock and that Tom Lincoln was not his father.

It is odd how the personality of Lincoln has lived and grown through the years. These new papers will accelerate and augment it.

RALPH McGILL

The Atlanta Constitution Atlanta Ga. Fed. 7-30-47

...To Live Without Toil---'

"——Voracious office seekers besieging for patronage . . . this wriggle to live without toil, work and labor."

In the Lincoln papers, left with the Library of Congress to be made public in 1947, and now so made, is that comment by the war President, who was besieged by hordes of job seekers.

"More horses than oats," he commented wryly.

There are many excellent persons who go into national government service. They inevitably are subjected to harassment and attack by members of Congress, who have immunity and wish to make headlines and will do so even though they be in error and entirely irresponsible.

Our system conspires to make Federal government work unattractive. Our State Department has seen many able men enter it with a desire to serve at personal loss. William Benton, Assistant Secretary of State, who proved himself one of the best young executives in our country by amassing a fortune in business and advertising, was, and is, subjected to attack by various Senators and Congressmen simply because he is independent of them. He retired from business because of his independent financial position, with the idea of working in government. Certain Congressmen apparently want someone who needs a job and will, because of the need, bow before their bellowings and irascible distempers. Chester Bowles was another example. The attack on David Lilienthal, purely political and dictated by interests hostile to TVA, is another example. There are many such.

Fed. 7-30-47

Irony There is great irony in this situation, and also great hypocrisy. I have heard sputtering businessmen and sputtering editors denounce the efficiency of government, howl to the moon about the red tape of bureaucracy, and apparently never face the fact that they themselves would not go into government work and would not allow the better men of their businesses to do so, even on leave of absence, without great objection.

Our system, in effect, insists on inefficiency and demands mediocrity, punishing initiative and aggressiveness with the smothering dust of criticism and nagging harassments.

State Governments Nowhere is the evil so great as in State governments. Most Federal workers are protected by civil service.

The States, for the most part, have covered education and welfare departments with civil service. I know of no safe way civil service could be extended to the departments customarily services by patronage. There the help problem is deadly and largely hopeless. It consists, to about 90 percent, of persons who get jobs because of a political obligation. They need political jobs because they are not able to fill others efficiently. If civil service would apply to them it would perpetuate gross inefficiency for a generation.

Now, at a time when there are more than 60,000,000 persons in jobs in this country, the various States are plagued by swarms of job seekers too inefficient to get work without political "pull."

Every Governor knows the daily throngs seeking State jobs In a sense they are piteous, walking illustrations of failure—their own and of our society.

Qualifications Lincoln liked to tell the story of the king who called in the court minister, before a royal hunt, and asked if it would rain. The minister said not. The royal party went hunting and on the way met a farmer riding a jackass. The farmer told them to turn back, it would rain. The king laughed and went on, but it did rain heavily and the hunt was ruined.

The king sent for the farmer. "It's not me, but my jackass," said the farmer. "When he puts his ears forward, it's going to rain; when he puts them back, it will be dry."

Sandburg Describes Roll-Call Of Lincolnians at Ceremony

Modesty of Scholars Is Noted, and Words of the Speakers Are Called a Rare Thrill in Authentic Oratory

By CARL SANDBURG

The Atlanta Journal Mon- 7-28-47

WASHINGTON, July 27 — A seated audience of some 500 persons and a standing crowd of perhaps 3,000 at four o'clock yesterday afternoon saw and heard the ceremonial exercises in the rotunda of the Library of Congress to which the general public was invited.

They heard the Librarian of Congress, Luther H. Evans, as head custodian of the Robert Todd Lincoln Collection of the Papers of Abraham Lincoln, declare that mass of letters and manuscripts to be now open and free for the use of any and all in "an anxious nation and a needy world."

Dr. Evans then introduced, as spokesman for the American people and their Government, the chairman of the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library, United States Senator from the home state of Abraham Lincoln, C. Wayland Brooks.

Then came one of the most curious roll-calls of authors, scholars and personages ever seen in the staid old library halls. A throng on two floors, with hundreds of women and girls in colorful summer garb, looked up to see Senator Brooks call the names.

Reverence Marks Scene

One by one they rose, took the six steps up to the platform alongside the Senator, faced the crowd, bowed, spoke no word, bowed again, and went down six steps on the other side.

Fourteen authors of more than a hundred Lincoln books—fourteen—and if they had each been asked to speak on Lincoln till they ran out of material, their speeches would have run longer than any filibuster even conducted under the Capitol dome just across the street. Mon-7-28-47

The assemblage saw significant token American personages presented, modest men who shrink from public appearances, who nevertheless recognized it was fitting they rise, bow and share in this particular event that would never be repeated.

One of these, in a light tan summer suit, of erect and easy carriage, quiet and unassuming, his face pale and hair thinning, a faint hint of a smile in his eyes and mouth—certainly, he was a token appropriate to the hour—Robert Todd Lincoln Beckwith of Chevy Chase, Md., great-grandson of President Abraham Lincoln and grandson of Robert Todd Lincoln.

Then came a major general, in civilian light tan linen, six feet one, a handsome soldierly figure, his grandfather represented in the newly acquired collection by more than 100 letters to President Lincoln—Ulysses S. Grant 3d.

For the fraternity of scholars and authors, their expectations and viewpoints, and the wide array of Lincoln students, the closing speaker was Roy P. Basler, Missouri-born, a graduate of Duke University, Professor of English and American Literature in various Southern colleges and universities, a tall, blond, lanky person with the slouch of a big-league pitcher.

He has edited a collection of Lincoln speeches and writings and as executive secretary of the Abraham Lincoln Association in Springfield, Ill., heads the project for a massive and definitive edition, elaborately annotated, of the letters, addresses and state papers of Abraham Lincoln.

Basler, as representative of the most widely cooperative effort of Lincoln scholars and collectors as yet undertaken in this direction, spoke gratitude "in recognition of the great service which Robert Todd Lincoln has rendered to the study of American history. * * * This is where Lincoln's papers belong." He would hope that the grateful welcome given to Robert Lincoln's act, the dignity accorded it and the accompanying publicity, "may encourage others to emulate the giving of historical documents into the keeping of our national library."

What has now been newly piled alongside the previous immense Lincoln materials in the library can, in Basler's view, give added color and depth to studies of the Lincoln record and personality. He emphasized that no biographer can afford to neglect the large fresh accretion. And he inquired, "Is it likely that historical interpretations of the roles played by respective members of Lincoln's war Cabinet will have to be revised in the light of these new documents? Quite possibly, but perhaps not to any major degree. Is there any likelihood that we may have to revise largely our estimate of Lincoln himself? Such a possibility is difficult even to contemplate." Mon-7-28-47

What Would He Do Today?

Basler was speaking as a man who has plowed his way slowly and thoroughly through the entire recorded Lincoln utterance. When he edited a collection of letters and speeches he went to libraries and wrote to collectors and owners of Lincoln manuscripts to make certain as far as possible that his texts were following the originals. And Basler is a brooding man about the dreams and destinies of America. Out of this came his paragraph as it boomed from the microphone in the rotunda, part of his summary answer to the question, "What would Lincoln do today?" He read:

"I beleive that America will continue to follow Lincoln's belief that the wealth and power which have accrued to the nation in our quest for freedom and equality is not an end in itself, but is a by-product, to be used as a means of furthering the quest. Our wealth and power cannot justify our democracy before the nations of the world, now or ever. But our democracy can justify our wealth and power, by utilizing it in the quest for a better world for all men everywhere. We shall have failed of the historic destiny which Lincoln saw for us unless we recognize with him that, as he said, 'The struggle of today, is not altogether for today—it is for a vast future also.'"

Herald Tribune, N.Y., N.Y.

Evans' Words Recalled

Not often has this present writer been a listener where authentic oratory happened and you could go back and read again what was said and it was worth the time. This was one of those few occasions. Librarian Luthern Evans, a Texan in accent and laughter, had chosen his words and deliberated over sentences:

"We observe a legal convention, property is transferred, a deed is validated. . . . We keep an engagement with the past. It is, in other words, a time for sentiment and searching. Because this is so, our first duty must be to avoid delusion. . . . A bandage is removed from ancient hurts, healed by benignant and unknowing time, but only at last quite understood.

"Here is a touchstone of history, albeit a touchstone of limited powers and ruthless mysteries. We are come upon the image of Abraham Lincoln and his world as his son would have it revealed to us. For these twice-ten-thousand papers constitute the testament of him whom all perceive, and most accept, as the great participant in the American experience—ours is the evidence of a great life as transmitted by a devoted advocate, and thus it represents an abiding memorial to both."

For some of us this could have had the low accompaniment of Bach music on a console, even though one editorial writer on a Washington newspaper, a cynic and pedant, would refer to it as hagiography, which means saint worship, in a discussion of this with Paul M. Angle, secretary of the Chicago Historical Society and author and editor of several hagiographic books about Lincoln, he remarked, "We could use a few real saints in this country now. And it's nice to live in a country where you can pick the saints you prefer to worship so long as you don't interfere with other saint worshippers."

LINCOLN TRIAL PAPERS SEEN CLUE TO SEALING

Times-New York, N.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5—The Library of Congress cited numerous appeals to President Abraham Lincoln for pardon or clemency in military and civil court cases as an "important clue" today to Robert Todd Lincoln's reasons for requiring his father's papers to be sealed for twenty-one years. N.Y.

The recently opened collection contained many such documents that might have embarrassed close relatives of the persons involved, or even the persons themselves, if publicized in their lifetimes.

The appeals include formal petitions of generals whose military reverses brought them before military courts and Congressional investigations. There are also telegrams of wives, parents and friends of soldiers condemned to death for desertion or sleeping on picket duty. Wed.8-6-47

President Lincoln's notations on the records show that he examined the appeals carefully and reversed the decisions of courts in many instances.

One wife of a deserter appealed on the ground that her husband had enlisted while he was too intoxicated to be responsible. She said he had received only a uniform from his company, no pay or bounty, before deciding to leave and resume the management of his own business.

President Lincoln's decision was as follows: 8-6-47

"Upon a good man being furnished * * * and mustered into the service for the term of three years, said (soldier) is fully pardoned for any supposed desertion—A. Lincoln, May 2, 1864."

The extent to which death sentences were meted out to deserters is shown in a report prepared at President Lincoln's request on Nov. 30, 1863. It disclosed that in the Army of the Potomac from July 1 to that date 592 men had been tried, 291 found guilty, eighty condemned to be shot and twenty-one shot.

The New York Times
N.Y.T. Mon. 7-28-47

THE NEW LINCOLN PAPERS

Those who looked for something sensational among the 18,350 Lincoln papers sealed by his son, Robert Todd Lincoln, twenty-eight years ago and now opened at last, seem doomed to disappointment. No rumored hints of treachery within the war Cabinet or other scandal has been found. So far the items examined only add vitality and stature to the lofty image enshrined in every American heart.

They emphasize once more Lincoln's forbearance and patience under provocation—patience with the hotheads of the South before hostilities broke out, with his political opponents, with self-opinionated and unruly generals, with the ubiquitous and flighty Greeley, with critical members of his Cabinet who fancied themselves better equipped than he to guide the nation through its terrible crisis. They sink a little in the places to which history has assigned them. He rises. Everything his tired hands touched show his wisdom, his mercy and his loving kindness.

A letter to McClellan, for example, leaves no doubt among strategists that Lincoln's plans for the Army of the Potomac were right and McClellan's wrong. Again and again he yielded to this ambitious organizer who won all his victories on paper and lost most of his battles. He yielded too much, yet in the end it was his wisdom and firmness that saved the Union from disaster. Among the collection is Lincoln's heavy-hearted farewell to his old friends at Springfield. It is as touching as Washington's farewell to his officers after the Revolution. A fragment of writing found in the President's worn carpetbag condenses his theory of government in words the troubled world could well heed today. "The legitimate object of government is to do for a community of people whatever they need to have done but cannot do at all or cannot do so well for themselves in their separate and individual capacities. In all that the people can individually do as well for themselves the government ought not to interfere." Mon- 7-28-47

That Lincoln was a fatalist is established by the discovery of some eighty threats of assassination, all pigeonholed by him and dismissed. They gave him less concern than the appeals of greedy office-seekers. If it was his destiny to die by an assassin's hand, he felt he could do little to save himself. The tragic event confirmed his judgment. Meanwhile, as these new letters of his show, he continued to toil through the tragic maze that confronted him day after dreary day, writing out his state papers in his own bold scrawl, consoling the bereaved, settling differences among his own supporters, facing down defeat in the field and discouragement at home, distressed even by the disappearance of Tad's flower-eating nanny-goat, and always with the changeless purpose of reuniting North and South in a new brotherhood of peace. Despite the burdens he bore on his broad shoulders, these would not be Lincoln's papers if there were not here and there flashes of the humor that could "make a cat laugh."

They will occupy the historians for years to come. But for the common man they will only enhance a grandeur of character long since acknowledged. They touch with fresh life the massive, melancholy, steadfast figure whose marble effigy in the Lincoln Memorial still broods over the people he loved so much. Mon- 7-27-47

The Negro Freedman

Black Dispatch, Oklahoma City,

Discussion of the relations of Oklahoma Negroes with the Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians in Territorial days should prove an interesting discussion during the sessions of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, to be held at Douglass high school this week, beginning Friday.

The Choctaws arrived down the Trail of Tears from their former home in Mississippi and Alabama, ahead of the Chickasaws, who arrived in 1832, and both of these Indian groups showed more brotherly disposition to fraternize and socialize with their former black slaves than any of the others except the Seminoles, who early during their discovery in Florida, showed marked inclination to associate with the blacks rather than the whites. In fact, it is said that Oceola, who led in the fierce Seminole war, was an escaped Negro slave who took leadership among the Seminoles during that early period. Oklahoma.

It is estimated that somewhere in the neighborhood of 20,000 slaves were numbered among the Five Civilized Tribes prior to their emancipation by the Indians in 1866, and unlike the white man, who continued to hold the black man in a demoted status, most of the Indian tribes accepted the black man, who was called a Freedman, on a full basis of social equality. Sat. 10-25-47.

The Cherokees, who had thoroughly copied the social standards of the whites, were the only one of the Five Civilized Tribes refusing to accept the Negro as an equal, and as early as 1808, at Broom's Town, Georgia, had written a constitution which forbade marriage with Negroes. Any person who sanctioned an Indian-Negro marriage was to be fined fifty dollars, and a Cherokee marrying a Negro woman was to be subjected to fifty-nine lashes on his bare back, and a Cherokee woman marrying a Negro man was to be given twenty-five stripes. Measured by the yardstick of the lash, the Cherokee, unlike the white man, placed a higher value upon the virtue of his male than his female.

The Choctaws made provision for the education of the freedman as early as 1885, when they adopted resolutions which provided that the freedman should get the same type and character of education as the full-blood. During the winter of 1885, 847 Negro children were enrolled in the schools of the Choctaw nation, and in 1892, they established the first boarding school in that section, named Tushka Lusa, meaning "Black Warriors," and Henry Nail, a Choctaw freedman, was made principal.

A very clear idea of the democracy a black man enjoyed during this same period in the Chickasaw nation can be secured from the quite instant effort of a desperate white man named Wilson, who had killed a Chickasaw Indian. This white man sought to prove he was a mullato immediately upon conviction and sentence to be hanged. He got away from the sentence by this subterfuge. Quite evidently Negroes were passing for white in the Indian country as early as 1876 when this incident occurred.

There was much wailing and gnashing of teeth down around Atoka in 1907 when statehood came, declaring under the Oklahoma constitution that Indians were white people. This position was taken by the framers of the constitution in order to prevent any further merger in blood between Indians and Negroes because of the vast mineral wealth that had come into the possession of members of the Five Civilized Tribes. The white man in this instance did the very opposite to what he did in Virginia, where under the constitution of the Old Dominion Indians are classified as black. Needless to say, all of the Indians in Virginia are penniless and destitute. In Oklahoma, as in Virginia, ethnology and economics peeped shyly at one another. Sat. 10-25-47

Gradually, across the early years a large number of Negroes, along with the whites from the several states, began to creep into Oklahoma and the Indian Territory. Negroes who came from Alabama, Tennessee, Texas, Arkansas and the various sections of the nation were characterized as "State Negroes," and the whites immediately and falsely propagandized the freedmen with the idea that the state Negro was here to rob them. It took perhaps thirty years to bridge the chasm between the two groups. During this period of transition, through state courts and guardianships, the freedman was stripped of almost all of his property and wealth. Black Dispatch, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Passage of the Dawes Act in 1887 provided for the allotment of Indian lands. This legislation was the result of white pressure to rid this section of tribal government and make possible acquisition of the land that had been given to the Indian "as long as grass grows green and rivers run down stream." In the passage of the Dawes act it was provided that the freedman should have the same allotment in land as his Indian brother. Quite naturally, when a coal black freedman arrived before the commission, when it finally apportioned the land, the Dawes commission was peeping over its glasses, and thereby hangs a saga almost as unbelievable as the myths in Arabian Nights. Sat. 10-25-47

In those days Oklahoma land was valued solely on basis of its agricultural value. The Indian who occupied the fertile valleys where the grass grew tall, was considered wealthy, while the sand hills were accepted as worthless. Somehow, the coal black freedman discovered that his allotment was located in the sand hills and the rocks. Measured by the yardstick of the Dawes Commission, the Negro had been handed a real "turkey." But a few years later when the geological surveys were made, it was discovered that the sand hills and the rocks that had been gratitously given to the blacks, was the spot in Oklahoma where the great oil, gas and vast mineral wealth of the state resided.

Early in the life of the Indian Territory, because of tribal prohibitions denying right to the Indian to try a white man in his courts, the government established a federal court at Fort Smith, where all of the outlaws who infested the Indian Territory were taken when apprehended for law violations. Many freedmen as well as state Negroes were enlisted by the federal government as U. S. marshals to assist in bringing law and order to the Five Civilized Tribes. These black law enforcers fought the outlaws from the Wichitas in western Oklahoma to the Winding Stair mountains in the east, and from the Cookson Hills down south to Red River. Some of these brave men's names follow: Zeke Miller, Alderson; Bob Fortune, Wilburton; Bass Reeves, Muskogee; Bill Colbert, Atoka; Grant Johnson, Eufaula; Neeley Factor, Carbon, and many others too numerous to mention.

While we are discussing law enforcement it might be well to mention that loyal Negro freedmen fought two successful battles during the Civil War on the spot where Wewoka now stands, in Seminole county, and at Cabin Creek up in Craig county in the old Cherokee nation. The old tumbling rock enclosure within the walls of the military installation at Fort Sill was erected there by two troops of the Tenth Cavalry in 1867. 22 Okla.

Across the past half century the freedman and the state Negro have gotten better acquainted. The old divisions and separations are no more. Both have contributed to the cultural development of the state. The freedman, who had breathed the zephyrs of liberty almost a half century before the white man brought racial prejudice to the Indian country, is the effervescent spirit who has since 1907 rebelled against encroachment against civil liberty and has demanded full citizenship at every opportunity, while on the other hand, the state Negro who had become skilled in industry and thrift back in the Deep South, has balanced life from the economic angle in the Land of the Fair Gods. This week the freedman and the state Negro join hands in welcoming to Oklahoma the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. The latch-string is hanging on the outside.

Prodigies

Prodigy—R. Chatham Walker of Washington, D. C., is only 4, but he is charming audiences with his unusual poise and ability as a public speaker. The youthful orator is about to go on tour of the United States, to further demonstrate his talents. His parents are formerly of Chicago and Chattanooga, Tenn. Sat. 7-5-47

22 1947

Slavery

ELEVEN NEGROES, formerly servants to Confederate soldiers in the Civil War, still live and receive pensions. They are in Mississippi, Virginia and North Carolina, six in the first, four in the second and one in the third state.

Since the close of the Civil War it has cost Southern states a tidy sum to pension off these old servants, many of whom were proud of their "war service."

Mississippi pays its former servants $14 a month; Virginia, 20, and North Carolina. $26.66 a month.

Woman, 105, Dies Aboard Train

CHICAGO—Mrs. Pleasant Harvey, 105, once a slave on a Montgomery, Ala., farm, died Saturday aboard a CEI railroad train entering Chicago.

Rights And Duties

In A Democracy

By LUTHER P. JACKSON

Arthur Lee, Slave Artisan, Buys His Freedom; Also Buys His Wife

LYING on the boundary line of the states of Virginia and West Virginia and embracing the counties of Monroe, Greenbrier, Bath and Alleghany is the region known to history as the Springs of Virginia. Comprising these springs in this area are Hot Springs, Warm Springs, Sweet Springs. White Sulpher and others. Long known to the public is the region of summer resorts and healing centers for the aristocratic notables of America since as early as 1775, it is likewise the region where a black man, who, though a slave, brought distinction to the area for his skill as a blacksmith and for his continuous efforts to raise himself to the level of all free citizens. This man was Arthur Lee. He was born in 1793 in Monroe; was bound out as an apprentice in Greenbrier, labored as a slave for twenty years in Bath; and closed his career as a free man in Alleghany. He belongs to that large company of unsung heroes of America.

During his life time Lee passed through the ownership of three masters and each of them reaped a harvest from his labor. Thousands of dollars went into their pockets which Lee paid them from the work which he performed. For years he, the slave, got nothing in money. Then his last master drove a bargain with him to the effect that when he had earned twelve hundred dollars for him, then he (Lee) might have the privilege of buying himself for the sum of five hundred dollars. In due time he not only bought himself, he also bought his wife and child for the sum of $1250.

All of this headway could be made by Arthur Lee because much of his career was spent as a slave hired to other persons and as a slave hired to himself. In other words this man was virtually free long before he became legally free.

Sat. 8-23-47

Numbers of people today have the wrong conception of the social standing to be given the skilled artisans of generations ago. To many persons the blacksmith was just another ordinary manual laborer. But such was not the case with Arthur Lee and other blacksmiths of his day. At that time they were basically workers in iron; they were the men who took wrought iron and fashioned from it the impliments and tools of many households. They were the makers of the tires for the wheels of wagons and buggies before adjusting them on the wheels. They not only did the shoeing of horses; they also made the shoes to do the soeing. Every community was absolutely dependent on its blacksmith and so was the region of the Springs of Virginia dependent upon Arthur Lee.

To prove that the blacksmith trade was once a high calling we need only to be told that Henry Ward Beecher was descended from a line of blacksmiths and Henry W. Longfellow wrote his well known poem, the Village Blacksmith, in honor of one of his blacksmith ancestors. Negroes of today, as well as Americans in general who are the descendants of skilled artisans of a long time ago, may well feel proud of their heritage.

To the Springs of Virginia came tourists by horseback, by boat, and by stage coach from all parts of the country. Turnpikes were fairly numerous in this the Shenandoah valley of Virginia, but they were rough and rocky. Therefore before any of the guests could make their return homeward they must have new tires for their vehicles and new shoes for their horses. These and many other "iron" necessities for travel were provided by Arthur Lee.

Sat. 8-23-47

Arriving at the age of forty-two in the year 1835 Lee faced a crisis in his life. Under the harsh Virginia law of that day, all freed Negroes were compelled to leave the state within twelve months after receiving their liberation. He had just bought his freedom, and had just bought the freedom of his wife and child. And now to have to separate from them would be a calmity.

Fortunately, Lee managed to remain in Virginia for the rest of his days because his numerous white customers of Alleghany county came to his rescue. By means of a petition to the legislature they, 140 strong, asked this body to make an exception to the law in his case. They so asked because his removal would mark a loss to the county in which he labored so faithfully.

These achievements in slavery do not complete the list of achievements of this useful artisan. The remainder of his life story and perhaps the stories of other slave and free blacksmiths I shall have to give in a later article.

RALPH T. JONES

Atlanta Constitution

Ancient Geography Now Only Amusing

8-27-47 Wed.

Today let me take advantage of a kindly correspondent and turn the job of writing this column over to Mrs. W. B. Warthen, of Davisboro, Ga.

"Dear Mr. Jones," she writes.

"Your article on cats was amusing and edifying. . . . Many times I read your column first as I open The Constitution. . . . Your opinion on books influences greatly the books I read and enjoy.

"For the past few weeks I have been going over books in my library, 'reviewing' some that are 100 years old and many much older. If I were nearer Atlanta I would go by and show you this old 'Geography of The World.' It was published in Northampton, Mass., in 1795. Has a wooden back and the author, Nathanial Dwight, gives as his reason for writing this first edition:

" 'During an employment of several years in School-Keeping I observed the science of Geography was but little attended to in the early years of childhood.' He then explains his reason for writing in the form of a catechism, which would be easier for children to comprehend. 'It will enable them to improve many hours which, for want of something of this kind, are entirely lost. . . .'

Definitions

"In the first chapter, a general discussion of geography, he asks:

" 'What is a Republic?'

" 'It is either an aristocracy, democracy or a mixture of both.'

" 'What is a Democracy?'

" 'It is a government vested in the hands of persons who are elected by the people, as in France.'

"In Russia, he says, there are only two distinguished cities, St. Petersburgh and Moscow. He mentions 19 universities in Germany and 24 in Spain. Africa he calls 'Negroland' and says, 'mostly pagans and have no religion at all.'

"Of the tract called America there is North and South America.

"Then I looked for Georgia—there was North and South Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky, East and West Florida and Georgia. 'The towns of consequence' were Savannah, Augusta, Sunbury, Frederica and Louisville. The number of white inhabitants in Savannah was 900 and Augusta was then the capital.

" 'What are the characteristics of the inhabitants?'

" 'No material difference is discoverable between the Georgians and the Carolinans. The slaves do the labor and the soil is productive.'

Chasing It Down

8-27-47 Wed.

"So I turned to the Carolinans to see about our character. (I'm a Tarheel.)

" 'What is the character of the North Carolinans?'

" 'The people in this state live scattered on their plantations and are much like the Virginians.'

" 'What is the character of the Virginians?'

" 'They are sociable, attached strongly to pleasure and dissipations, highly jealous of personal independence. The holders of slaves have the same character in all countries.' (!!!)

" 'What is the character of South Carolinans?'

" 'It is similar to that of their neighbors only much more polished.' (!!!)

"This began to be amusing, so I decided to turn to Mr. Nathaniel Dwight's home state, Massachusetts. Here, he says:

" 'The people are industrious, orderly, economical in their living and frugal in their expenses. They are well-informed, fond of reading, social and hospitable, humane and friendly, and on the whole they form perhaps the most pleasing and happy society in the world.'

"Then he asks this pertinent question and the answer is in large capital letters:

" 'Are there any slaves in New England?'

" 'NONE.' (!!)

"Very sincerely."

Former Slave, 99, Dies In Chicago Home Of Son

Milton Gasper, 99, a former North Carolina slave, died in his home on the Southside, Thursday. 8-15-47

Gasper who was born on a

Killed In Crash

14 Years Old, Slave, Twice Sold

triarch of a farm family living near Wiggins, Miss.

During his lifetime, the ex-slave used to tell how he was twice sold into slavery and how he took for his last name that of the second family to which he was sold.

HATTIESBURG, Miss.—(ANP) —An auto crash nine miles east of Lumberton, near here, Sunday, claimed the life of a man Myles McGowan, reputedly 114 years old, was identified by state highway patrolmen as the pa-

on the work developed by Randall Director, United

April 17 and in 63 major communities. The goal communication. Frank M. Tot

campaign will be for-ted on college

Fund, Inc., Tyus Field Director, Atlanta

ill be conducted and college roughout the nation $1,300,000. Frank

REMEMBERS ROBERT E. LEE—Ninety-eight-year-old Mrs. Nannie Rone of Richmond, Va., shown here with one of her numerous great-great grandchildren, still remembers the eating habits of Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson and Jeff Davis. She's still hale and hearty.—Photo by Arthur Clarke, Richmond Times Dispatch.

Former Slave Believes He's 127 Years Old

CARROLLTON, Ala.—(UP)—Alfred Chimm, Pickens County Negro, dosen't know how old he is, but said his "white folks" told him he is 127.

He was a slave before the War Between the States. He recently broke into the news when a doctor was called for him for the first time in his life.

Crimm has a 78-year-old son. At the age of 80, Crimm cut three new teeth. Several years ago his eyesight became dim. Recently his sight returned. He threw away his glasses and said he could see as well as he could in his youth.

Arkansas Man, Oldest In County, Succumbs At 102

CAMDEN, Ak.—(ANP) — The oldest Ouachita County citizen, George Lester, died at his home in Cullendale, Ark., last Monday, at the age of 102.

Affectionately known as "Uncle George" throughout the county, he was born a slave in Athens, Ga., July 14, 1844, and moved to Arkansas after the Civil War. He took pride in his advanced age and his birth certificate, which he displayed proudly. He was active until a few weeks before his death.

CELEBRATING HER 111TH BIRTHDAY, Mrs. Carrie Kirk of Cleveland, O., holds a few of the vast number of candles which decorated her birthday cake March 31. Born in slavery in 1838 in a log cabin near Charlotte, N. C., Mrs. Kirk says, "my father was sold away from us." She remembers seeing men in uniform during the Civil War, but no fighting. She has two sons and a daughter in Philadelphia and lives in Cleveland with another son, Robert Harris, who is 82 years old.—Acme photo.

Last Slave-Born Woman Of Elgin Succumbs At 87

ELGIN, Ill.—The last surviving citizen here to have been born in slavery, Mrs. Mary E. Wheeler, 87-year-old daughter of the underground railroad, died this week in her home.

Mrs. Wheeler was brought to Elgin through the underground railroad by her parents from Cherokee, Ala.

The Mary Wheeler War Mothers Club was named in her honor and she was a leader in the annual Emancipation Day observance here.

She is survived by two sons, two step-sons, 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

After 50 Years On Borrowed Time

OWEONTA, Ala.—"Uncle" Abe Jones, who believed that more years of life than "three score years and ten" were "borrowed," died here last week after borrowing 50 years. He was 120 years old.

Born in South Alabama, he came to Blount County nearly 60 years ago. His health was good prior to his death in a small cabin near Village Springs. He is survived by his second wife, the daughter of a slave.

Jones' notion of "borrowed time" was based on the Biblical belief that a full life consists of only 70 years.

Negro Reported 127 Dies Near Tuscaloosa

TUSCALOOSA, Ala., Sept. 16—Funeral services were held at Rehobeth Baptist Church near Carrollton Sunday for Alfred Crimm, one-time Negro slave who was said to be 127 years old. Surviving are several sons and daughters, including Val Crimm, 78, of Tuscaloosa, and Cooper Crimm.

Born on the banks of the Tombigbee River "long before" the War Between the States, the Negro was widely known. He was the father of 17 children, only a few of whom survive. He is said to have cut three teeth at the age of 80 and after he passed his 100th birthday his eyesight was regained.

Woman, Age 100, Found Dead

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—Missing from her Fairfax County house at Burke for more than five weeks, the body of Mrs. Martha Thomas, 100-year-old ex-slave, was found dead Saturday approximately a quarter of a mile from her house.

County Coroner N. Podolnick said death of the centenarian, whose body was discovered behind a deserted schoolhouse, appeared to be from natural causes. The inseparable walking stick of the aged woman has not yet been found and the coroner said the case would not be cleared "until it turns up."

Her body was found by Ben Winger, one of the many neighbors who dropped in to feed and care for her. Immediately after her dissappearance a local welfare organization offered a $500 reward for information leading to her whereabouts.

Washington Slave List Sells For $1,400 At Auction

WASHINGTON— (ANP)— A list of Negro slaves once owned by George Washington brought the highest price of 242 private letters and papers in the Edward Ambler Armstrong collection which were sold at auction last week.

The Negro slave list was purchased by the Mount Vernon Ladies' association for $1,400.

The sale was held in the Kende galleries and netted a total of $25,959.

Woman, 107 Cutting Two New Teeth

CINCINNATI — One of Ohio's oldest citizens is Mrs. Malinda Jackson, who is in her 108th year and is proud of the fact that she has just started to grow two new teeth, her first non-store teeth in 50 years.

Mrs. Jackson, who was a slave for 30 years, bore 13 children, 8 of whom she has outlived. One of her daughters has borne 18 children, another 12. In all, the aged woman has 83 descendants, 51 grandchildren, 22 great grandchildren, and five great, great grandchildren.

A native of Kentucky, Mrs. Jackson has lived in Cincinnati 22 years. Her husband died 38 years ago when she was a "mere girl" of 70.

22 1947

Slavery

Jenkins, 90-Year-Old Ex-Slave, Religious Leader, Reveals His Life Story

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga. Inq. Fri. 11-28-47

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.—(SNS)—Mr. Edward William Jenkins, a 90-year-old ex-slave, visited the Observer office, November 24, in conversation with the editor gave much history of his long and useful life. He is the father of Prof. J. L. Jenkins, principal of East Fifth Street School, and Mr. John Jenkins, merchant on East Third Street.

"My most pleasant moments are now after reviewing a life well spent. My family, church, community, state and nation have given me much to do during the past ninety years."

An ex-slave, Edward William Jenkins was born at Crawfordsville, Ga., Dec. 10, 1857. This was during the administration of James Buchanan who was president of the United States. Abe Lincoln was soon afterwards elected president and the people of the South formed a government and pulled out from the Union. Lincoln notified the new government to come back into the Union but the new government failed to do so. The North declared war on the South and after a bloody struggle freed the slaves.

My master's wealth was taken during the war and he had to give my parents up so we moved away to make it for ourselves. My parents worked for fifty cents per day and cared for nine children. Later we moved to Atlanta, Georgia, where wages were sixty cents per day from sun to sun.

There were no schools in the South for Negroes at this time, so we were handicapped for securing an education.

Age twenty-one found me in the city of Chattanooga where I have resided for the remainder of these years. Times had been very hard with me, yet I realized that there was a God who could console and comfort me along the way. I started out to seek the Lord Jesus and found Him. He freed me of my sins and my load was made easier to bear. I joined the First Baptist Church in 1879 under Rev. Nickson and later served under Rev. Olden. I assisted in the building of the present structure on East Eighth Street.

A happy marriage, a young family, I finally moved out into the country moving also my friendship to the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church. After many years and my family had grown up, I moved back into the city and joined the Orchard Knob Baptist Church where my membership is at the present. I served on the deacon board and as church treasurer for the past thirty-six years and am still serving. I am not tired. It is a pleasure to work for the Master. Fri. 11-28-47

I organized a troop of thirty-five men who volunteered into the Spanish-American war and also organized a troop of Boy Scouts, the present troop Number 97. Many of those Scouts served the nation well in the recent war. Scouting prepares boys for life as well as to meet emergencies. The chief objective of the Boy Scout program is to build character and train for citizenship. Fri.

I have been a citizen of Chattanooga for sixty-eight years, and am proud of my record. I am interested in the youth. I believe that good boys make good men.

I have dedicated my life to God. May God bless you with a happy long life as He did me. If I live to see December 10, 1947, I will be ninety years old. I am constantly striving to make my better best. Yours in Christ, Edward William Jenkins, 506 North Cumberland.

Woman Who Recalled Slavery Days Buried

Defender
Chicago Ill.

WASHINGTON, N.C. — Funeral services were held from the Maple Grove Baptist Church here last Sunday for Mrs. Sennis Haskins of the Blounts Creek section, who died two days before at 115 years of age. 12-22-47

The aged woman is believed to have been one of the oldest persons in North Carolina. She had been quite feeble for several years before her death last Friday. Mrs. Sennis, in telling of experiences in her life time, well remembered "Yankee soldiers" who came to free the slaves, and said she was "near 30" when the Civil War began. She was a native of Beaufort county, and had made her home with her grandson, Adam A. Turner, near Blounts Creek.

Negro Woman, Ex-Slave, Dies At Age Of 106

Chicago Defender
Sat. 7-19-47

MONTGOMERY, Ala., July 15—(AP)—Mary Harris, one-time slave whose age was given as 106, died at her home near here Sunday leaving among her survivors a brother 93 years old and another 91. Funeral home records listed the aged Negro's birth date as Dec. 30 1840. Relatives said she spent near a quarter of a century in slavery and a son, Henry, now 82, was born while the mother was still a slave. Henry and another son, Louis, 71 live near Montgomery.

The brothers still living are John Lewis, 93, and Reese Lewis, 91, according to the mortuary records. Both reside near Montgomery.

Funeral arrangements have not been completed. Tues. 7-15-47

CITY'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

Constitution
Atlanta Ga.

Ex-Slave, 103, To Appear At Sylvania Celebration

Mon. 12-15-47

SYLVANIA, Dec. 14—(AP)—Ex-slave Richard Bryant, 103, will make personal appearances at the museum which will be a feature of Sylvania's 100th birthday celebration Dec. 21-24, Centennial officials said Sunday.

White-haired Uncle Richard, who was 103 years old on last Aug. 28, is the only known living resident of Jacksonboro, former county seat of Screven County.

Clyde Hollingsworth, General Chairman of the Centennial, said the museum will display documents, furniture and wearing apparel—all at least 100 years old—and will be open all day on Dec. 23 and 24. It will be set up in the basement of the Methodist Church.

Uncle Richard, he said, will be on hand to talk of Jacksonboro and the early days of Sylvania; and to answer questions for people as to their kin and generations back. Hollingsworth said that Uncle Richard's mind is clear and his memory excellent.

Uncle Richard was born near Jacksonboro in 1844 and belonged to Wesley Bryan. Mrs. Phyllis Bryan—known to Richard as "Miss Polly"—reared him in the Bryan home. He never knew his mother until he was 15 years old, when Mrs. Bryan told him that a Negro nurse he had always known as "Aunt Matilda" was really his mother.

"I never received the first whipping, never went to a frolic, drank whiskey, or had a case in court," Richard declared. In 1871 he married Rosa Houghton and they had seven sons and four daughters. All have made good in such work as a doctor, nurse, school professor, railway mail clerk and brick mason.

While he is a little hard of hearing, Richard's vision is perfect and he has never experienced a headache. Almost every day, he threads needles for one of his daughters to sew.

Adam Beckley Dies At 83

Chicago
Defender

Nation's Notables Knew Ex-Slave

Funeral services were held Thursday afternoon for Adam M. Beckley, 83, at one time a prominent figure in Illinois politics, and a friend of Defender Founder Robert S. Abbott, and vice president of the United States Charles G. Dawes. Sat. 9-13-47

Beckley, a former slave, was a retired postal employe. During the Century of Progress Exposition, he served as doorman at the administration building. He was employed by the Marsh and McLennan Insurance Firm.

During the turn of the century, Beckley met such characters as Jesse and Frank James and had previously worked for Jefferson Davis. In 1890 he came to Chicago where he worked at such hotels as the old Palmer House, Great Northern and Grand Pacific. William McKinley was among the notables who knew him well.

He met vice president Dawes, when the vice president was a general and was campaign manager for Mark Hanna in 1896. In 1897 he joined the Treasury Department as a clerk handling mail. He worked there for 35 years before retiring with a pension in 1930. Sat. 9-13-47

Services were held at Jackson Parlors and burial in Lincoln cemetery. He is survived by his wife, Hattie, of 3110 Vernon.

'Aunt Molly' Dies At 92

Informer

HOUSTON — "Listen Saint Peter, and all ye other saints. "Aunt Molly" is coming to join you."

"Aunt Molly" isn't her real name but that's the name the majority of her acquainances knew her by.

She was just like an aunt to thousands of Houstonians.

Houston Informer

"Aunt Molly's" name was Mrs. Mary Grimes. She died peacefully last Saturday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Cora Hayes, 616 Robin, at the age of 92.

During the 92 years of her life, "Aunt Molly" lived in Houston. She was born here, a slave, in 1855. She was a Christian and church member back when Fourth Ward was called Baptist Hill.

Sat. 12-27-47

"Aunt Molly" was born on Baptist Hill. And "Aunt Molly" was distinguished, too. Prior to her death, she was perhaps the oldest living native Houstonian and was one of the founders of the Saint James Methodist church where funeral services were held for her Monday afternoon.

Rev. W. D. Lewis said the eulogy at "Aunt Molly's" funeral and after that the Daniel's undertakers took charge of the entombment which followed at the Paradise cemetary.

"Aunt Molly's" survivors include a son and a daughter, Moses Grimes, and Mrs. Cora Hayes; three grandchildren: W. B. Hayes, Miss Jennie Hayes, and Mrs. E. H. Byrd.

So stand guard up there Saint Peter, and give "Aunt Molly" a cordial welcome. She'ss be joining you presently.

Jenkins, 90-Yr.-Old Ex-Slave, Religious Leader, Reveals His Life Story

World
Memphis Tenn.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.—(SNS)—Mr. Edward William Jenkins, a 90-year-old ex-slave, visited the Observer office, November 24, in conversation with the editor gave much history of his long and useful life. He is the father of Prof. J. L. Jenkins, principal of East Fifth Street School; Mr. John Jenkins, merchant on East Third Street; Mrs. Louella Freeman, and Elder J. M. Jenkins, of Los Angeles, Calif.

"My most pleasant moments are now after reviewing a life well spent. My family, church, community, state and nation have given me much to do during the past ninety years." 12-16-47

An ex-slave, Edward William Jenkins was born at Crawfordsville, Ga., Dec. 10, 1857. This was during the administration of James Buchanan who was president of the United States. Abe Lincoln was soon afterwards elected president and the people of the South formed a government and pulled out from the Union. Lincoln notified the new government to come back into the Union but the new government failed to do so. The North declared war on the South and after a bloody struggle freed the slaves.

My master's wealth was taken during the war and he had to give up my parents so we moved away to make it for ourselves. My parents worked for fifty cents per day and cared for nine children. Later we moved to Atlanta, Ga., where wages were sixty cents per day from sun to sun.

There were no schools in the South for Negroes at this time, so we were handicapped for securing an education.

Age twenty-one found me in the city of Chattanooga where I have resided for the remainder of these years. Times had been very hard with me, yet I realized that there was a God who could console and comfort me along the way. I started out to seek the Lord Jesus and found Him. He freed me of my sins and my load was made easier to bear. I joined the First Baptist Church in 1879 under Rev. Nickson and later served under Rev. Olden. I assisted in the building of the present structure on East Eighth St.

console and com-
a God who could

"A happy marriage, a young family, I finally moved out into the country, moving also my membership to the Mount Calvary Baptist Church. After many years my family had grown up and I moved back into the city and joined the Orchard Knob Baptist Church where my membership is at present. I've served on the deacon board and as church treasurer for the past thirty-six years and am still serving. I am not tired. It is a pleasure to work for the Master.

"I organized a troop of thirty-five men who volunteered into the Spanish-American war and also organized a troop of Boy Scouts the present troop No. 97. Many of those Scouts served the nation well in the recent war. Scouting prepares boys for life as well as to meet emergencies. The chief objective of the Boy Scout program is to build character and train for citizenship.

"I have been a citizen of Chattanooga for sixty-eight years, and I am proud of my record. I am interested in the youth. I believe that good boys make good men.

"I have dedicated my life to God. May God bless you with a happy long life as He did me. My birthday was December 10, 1947, and I am ninety years old. I am constantly striving to make my better best. Yours in Christ, Edward William Jenkins, 506 North Cumberland.

Rights And Duties

In A Democracy

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Va.
22
Sat 8-30-47

By LUTHER P. JACKSON

A Continuation Of The Story Of The Career Of Arthur Lee

LAST week I gave the life story of Arthur Lee but only in part. He was the slave blacksmith who was born in 1793 and spent his days in the vicinity of the Springs of Virginia in four neighboring counties located on the boundary line of Virginia and West Virginia. He was an excellent mechanic and a man upon whom the tourists to the springs from all parts of the country depended for the shoeing of their horses, the repairing of their vehicles, and for all other services requiring the iron parts which blacksmiths everywhere in that day fashioned themselves. Rising step by step from the thousands of dollars earned for his master and for himself, Lee first bought himself and then his wife and child. He thus moved from slavery to freedom in slavery time. The remainder of his story, which I offer this week, is that this free man advanced from the purchase of himself and wife and child to the purchase of three tracts of land in Alleghany county embracing 473 acres. Though coming into the group of free persons and land owners rather late, Lee was one of the company of 168 free Negroes of Virginia in 1860 who owned land in excess of one hundred acres. His career illustrates the fact that certain Negroes of that time, though slaves, made progress—a type of progress which has commanded the respet of later generations in all times past.

WAS NOT ALONE

Arthur Lee was not alone as a mechanic nor as a man upon whom a community depended. Throughout the South in slavery days the owners of skilled artisans permitted their bondmen to operate shops or move about the neighborhood to ply their particular trades. They were allowed to make their own bargains, collect money, and pay the same to their masters, or lay it by as a saving toward purchasing their freedom. But in order to enjoy such privileges they had to be highly skilled and better than any white man who could be found in the community. Journal and Guide

In this group were shoemakers, brickmasons, carpenters, contractors, barbers, and livery stable operators. Whereas today we extend the highest praise to our doctors, lawyers, and professors; in that day the leaders of the race were these craftsmen and men of business enterprise. Norfolk, Va.

The members of the Negro race of a century ago who labored hard to transform themselves from chattel slaves to free citizens accomplished a feat which should challenge all members of this race today. As free persons they could buy and sell property and enjoy certain other civil rights but beyond this level they could go no further. The industrious slaves of the type of Arthur Lee pulled themselves up by their own bootstraps to a sort of half freedom, the limit for that time. We of the generations who followed the progressive slaves of a century ago began life where they left off—one with a thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth amendment, and one with an ever growing constitution to guarantee civil and political equality whenever the Negro people have pressed for it and have deserved it.

A SERIOUS QUESTION

Beginning, then, with a legal status far above that of the type of Arthur Lee, it is well to raise the question of how far a Negro citizen of our day must go in order to equal the level reached by Lee in his day. Again we must remember that he advanced to the stage of property ownership and conducted a normal American family life. And he perhaps secured a little education. Sat 8-30-47

To equal Lee the ambitious Negro of our day must advance to the point where he has secured all the formal education our country affords or an amount sufficient to enable him to excel others in his chosen life's work. In addition he must remain a student the rest of his days.

STILL A FIGHT

To equal Lee he must also advance to the point where he is entitled to exercise full political rights such as becoming a qualified voter and a person whose influence is felt in law-making circles. To equal him he must likewise be willing and ready to participate in any suit to advance the position of his race through the courts. Arthur Lee had to fight slavery and he fought it successfully. The ambitious Negro of our day has to fight segregation, and if he is a person of Lee's stature, he must fight it successfully.

Arthur Lee could advance and so may individuals of this day advance because, if they only knew it, they live in a country where under its principle of democracy every man can rise to a higher status. Slaves could rise and so can their descendants rise far above the condition in which thousands now find themselves. 8-30-47

Atlanta Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

RALPH McGILL

Tues. 7-29-47 22

The Proclamation Of Emancipation

Among the Lincoln papers now made public by the Library of Congress, is the Emancipation Proclamation as first sketched and presented to the Cabinet in July of 1862.

The proclamation was presented at a regular meeting with no advance notice by Lincoln. After much discussion, chiefly at a meeting on July 22, it was delayed.

It was, for the Cabinet, a dark day. The irresolute McClellan was failing before Richmond. His defeat and withdrawal were obvious.

Sec. Seward objected, saying that the public would take the proclamation as evidence of weakness. The armies had been defeated time after time, and he thought it better to withhold it, until some moment of success.

"The wisdom of this argument struck me with great force," Lincoln wrote.

It was withheld until September when, with few changes, it was published, to become effective within 100 days, or in January, 1863.

That initial draft, now revealed for the first time, reads, in part:

"And I hereby make known that it is my purpose, upon the next meeting of Congress, to again recommend the adoption of a practical measure for tendering pecuniary aid to the free choice or rejection, of any and all States which may then be recognizing and practically sustaining the authority of the United States, and which may then have voluntarily adopted, or thereafter may voluntarily adopt, gradual abolishment of slavery within such State or States—that the object is to practically restore, thenceforward to be maintained, the constitutional relation between the general Government, and each, and all the States, wherein that relation is now suspended or disturbed."

Objectives Lincoln had hoped and had sought to free slaves by paying for them. Early in the war he discussed the fact that the cost of the war for one week would free all the slaves in any one State.

It will be noted the proclamation was a political pressure document in that it freed the slaves only in the States not under Federal control. It acted to free them in the South. It was believed that at least some of the border States would surrender and come back to the Union. A great effort was made to have Georgia do this later in the war and, for a time, the State wavered.

Tues - 7-29-47

Union Lincoln believed passionately in the Union. It was this which led him to be stubborn about Fort Sumter, and to bring enormous political advantage to his course by maneuvering the Confederacy to fire the first gun of war.

Most of the financial forces in the North were for appeasement. Lincoln, meeting each day's conflicting problems as they came, made his famous statement to Sec. Hay, "My policy is to have no policy."

In Georgia, Alexander Stephens knew what course Lincoln finally would take. Said the little Georgian, who later was to become Vice President of the Confederacy:

"Mr. Lincoln was kindhearted, no man I ever knew was more so . . . but the Union, to him, in sentiment rose to the sublimity of a religious mysticism."

Warning In Montgomery, Ala., at the Confederate Cabinet meeting, Georgia's Robert Toombs was protesting against the firing on Sumter, saying to Jefferson Davis:

"Mr. President, at this time it is suicide, murder, and you will lose us every friend at the North. You will wantonly strike a hornet's nest which extends from mountains to ocean; legions, now quiet, will swarm out and sting us to death. It is unnecessary; it puts us in the wrong, it is fatal."

Davis, who moved from grievous error to grievous error all through his career, ignored it and ordered the attack.

The great Georgian's words were fatally prophetic.

Emancipation So it was with emancipation. The proclamation was aimed, chiefly, at Great Britain and

The fatal decision of the Confederate Cabinet at the war's outset to withhold its cotton and bring Great Britain into the war, so as to prevent shutdown of its cotton mills, had been another tragic error in which Davis participated.

The masses of people accepted unemployment rather than spin cotton produced by slave labor.

In 1862, however, great efforts again were being made to bring France into the war with private promise of a free hand in Mexico, and to bring Great Britain in for cotton.

Lincoln's proclamation, declaring free slaves in the Confederacy, effectively ended any chance that France or Great Britain might recognize the Southern Government. The Cabinet discussed the proper timing of the document.

Lee In the South, Gen. Lee saw the full meaning of it. He long before had seen that slavery was wrong. He now proposed that the South grant freedom to all slaves and their families who might be willing to join the army and fight for the South.

He knew the magic strength of the word "freedom."

But his voice was lost in the howl of the hotheads about Davis. Rarely has any Government had so consistently a disastrous foreign and domestic policy as that of Jefferson Davis and his Cabinet, which ignored, seemingly, all that was wise and clung to that which was unwise.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
August 17, 1947

Ex-Slave, 109, Lives Under Terms of 25 Presidents

22

By FIELDS WHATLEY

CEDARTOWN, Ga., Aug. 16.—A 109-year-old ex-slave in Polk county has lived through the administration of 25 presidents but she still has a few years to go to live as long as her parents did. Her mother lived to be 115 and her father reached the age of 114.

Nanny Whatley was born in Floyd county July 15, 1838, and lived with the King family until she was about 20 years old. At this time she met Mike Whatley, a slave owned by O. B. Whatley Sr., and the two decided to get married. After the wedding Nanny moved to the Whatley plantation.

When the slaves were freed after the War Between the States all the Whatley slaves chose to stay with their owners. Mr. Whatley gave each one a portion of land and the houses on the land. Nanny lives in the same house today.

Several years ago Nanny mortgaged her property. Although she lost her property by foreclosure on the mortgage, the real estate agent who handled the transaction on the resale made a provision in the deed that the house, well and one acre of land remain in Nancy's possession as long as she lived. The owner has offered to build her another house, but Nanny says she wants to live there till she dies.

Nanny has one son living who is past 70. She has 23 grandchildren, 68 great-grandchildren and 37 great-great-grandchildren. Her philosophy on her longevity is simple. She says she "worked hard, lived right, don't hate nobody, don't envy nobody and the man upstairs just let me live."

Speaking Out From The New South

By ROBERT DURR

Breath of a New Life
GREAT DEAL of what I think is necessary

A to breathe the breath of a new life into the 14,000,000 colored people in these United States can be found by researchers who will take upon themselves the task of interviewing the remaining few ex-slaves now living in various parts of the South. Many of them will be able to tell of many of their forebears whose spirits the master's whip could not break; how many of them thought chained, and yoked in bondage, elected to die rather than grimmingly submit to everlasting degradation and servitude.

My wife has just told me of how her grandmother used to tell her about such marvelous women—women who defied their masters' advances and oppression, and were beaten and tortured unto death rather than yield.

A Basic Courage
SHE TELLS ME that there are books written

Ex-Slave Marks 100th Year, Recalls Days Of Civil War

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.

NASHVILLE—(ANP)—Memories of Civil War days when she was a house slave were still with Mrs. Jennie Polk Shacklett when she celebrated a quiet but active 100th birthday here last week.

As evidence that her activeness has not been impaired, Grandma Shacklett, as she is known, washes and irons all her clothes and walks everywhere she goes. For her birthday, she attended the Missionary Baptist church two blocks from her home.

Sat 7-19-47

Grandma was born the daughter of slaves on the Lucius Eugene Polk plantation in Columbia, Tenn. Lucius Polk was a relative of President James K. Polk. She was 14 years old when Fort Sumter was fired upon in 1861 and was working in the Polk household.

Fed Civil War Soldiers

Recalling her activities during the Civil War, she said: "Both blue and gray uniforms came to our doors. And even if Colonel Polk was a Confederate man, he'd feed them. I cooked for all of them."

She married Jim Shacklett, a slave on the Shacklett plantation, just across the road from the Polk place. They had four children, three boys and one girl. All of them are dead, the last one dying 15 years ago. Her only relations living are two grandchildren and

She three great-grandchildren. lives with her granddaughter, and has a dog called "Big Feet" and a small black kitten for company.

Deeply religious, she attributes her long life to being a "good child of God." Her face belies her age, for it is scarcely lined. The only sign of age is a little difficulty in walking, because of a rheumatic attack two years ago. Sat 7-19-47

"The Lord has been good to me," she says. "He's seen fit to keep me on this earth, but there are a lot of good folks in heaven I want to see."

by white writers for sale to and circulated among white people only, purporting to show that deep down in colored people there is a basic courage—a willingness to die for a place in the sun rather than submit to eternal slavery—physical, economical or political.

Such books point out the "importance" of white people spreading such propaganda divisive techniques as are designed to make the colored people destructively dissatisfied with themselves, to feel inferior and to act ill at ease in the presence of white people.

There is method in this madness which drives the enemies of colored people to ridicule their works, good or bad, and strive to keep their and the world's eyes focussed upon their shortcomings.

Referred to as "The Negro"

FOR INSTANCE, many daily papers, in reporting crimes by colored persons in the South, instead of referring to the offenders by their names, refer to them as "the Negro." It was "the Negro" who shot Mr. So and So, "the Negro" admits attacking the white woman, and "the Negro" burglar was shot. Sat. 7-19-47

As a matter of fact all the alleged culprits were individuals and committed their crimes as individuals. One of the "most liberal" dailies featured an alleged colored murderer's picture on their front page. Never in all its history has the picture of any outstanding colored person been printed on the front page of that paper. This is in line with the policy of keeping the colored people's better side completely hidden from the world to facilitate his crucifixion, aided and abetted by the duped and misinformed Mr. and Mrs. John Q. Public. Sat. 7-19-47

One day some thirty odd years ago, as I sat in the sunshine with my grandfather behind his house deep in Mississippi—down behind where the sun goes down, I asked him about his life as a slave, and what he did about it.

He told me how he used to walk off the Durr plantation over onto the Smith plantation and hide in the cabin of another slave on the adjoining plantation for as long as a week or until he was found and carried back to the plantation of his master. There, he said, all the slaves would be summoned to a natural hillside theatre to watch appointed fellow slave cat-o-nine-tail-wielders cut his back into sausage-like meat.

'Granny' Lula Anderson Celebrates 111th Year

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 7-19-47

"GRANNY" ANDERSON

FLORENCE, Ala. — "Granny" Lula Anderson, who has seen a century come and go, celebrated her 111th birthday Sunday, July 6, at the home of her daughter, Mary B. Thompson, 510 Circular drive, with whom she lives.

Hundreds of folk from many surrounding areas came to offer gifts and congratulations to the famed centenarian. Secret of her unusually long life span is living a modest life and having faith in God. She is a member of Primitive Baptist Church. Sat. 7-19-47

The centenarian was born in Louisiana in 1836. When she was quite young, her family was sold to a wealthy plantation owner in Alabama, where she has lived since. She well remembers having seen Abraham Lincoln, and is one of the few women in the country that can boast of being a "sprightly" young woman when the famed Emancipation Proclamation was signed. Sat. 7-19-47

"Granny" smoked a pipe in her "younger" days, but quit after she reached the 100th mark. She has been married four times and finds it too difficult to keep an accurate list of her many relatives.

Mrs. Anderson has 13 children—three boys and 10 girls—12 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Sat. 7-19-47

"Granny" spends most of her time in a wheel chair and often croons to kittens that invariably play there. Her daughter, Mary, who cares for her, reports that she is very weak but is still able to walk by holding to various things for support.

Ex-Slave, 103, Sees Atom War In Next Year

NEW BERN, N. C. — (ANP) — An ex-slave, who will be 104 years old September 21, predicted an atomic war before he is 105 years old.

Charles McClees, who was born a slave in Tyrell County, predicted the United States will become involved in another disastrous war before the end of 1948, unless every possible means is exerted to prevent it. Nothing was settled by World War II, McClees said. Fighting is still going on in Europe, and Russia and the United States have too many differences of opinion and policy.

"Those Russians have been planning while we have been asleep," the ex-slave said. "They may bomb us so suddenly next year that we won't be able to win the war as we have been doing in the past. We better wake up and get busy, so our country won't be ruined."

McClees has lived through five wars. Upon learning that he was free, his first task was to find his mother, who was on Roanoke Island. He learned that union soldiers had moved her and a number of other slaves to James City, near here. After questioning persons, he found her. McClees did not participate in the Civil war fighting, but did serve his master as a domestic.

He is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, residents in this area. Alert and active, he maintains he was born on Sept. 21, 1843. He has a memory that recalls incidents in this area more than 75 years ago. The exslave can neither read nor write.

EX-SLAVE WOMAN DIES AT 107 IN NORTH CAROLINA

Chicago Defender
22
Chicago, Ill., Sat. 5-31-47

RALEIGH, N. C.—(ANP)—A 107-year-old ex-slave woman was buried here last week, who only last year proved she could chop more cotton than workers 70 years younger than she.

Funeral services for "Aunt" Lugene, who claimed she was born 107 years ago in a slave cabin on the plantation of the late Dr. Edward White in Franklin county, were held at Morris chapel, near Creedmoor. She passed suddenly at the home of her nephew, Robert White, who lives at Knightdale.

A woman of extraordinary strength and vitality, she amazed relatives and neighbors last fall by chopping as much cotton and stripping as much fodder as regular field hands. She was able to take part in family affairs until a few weeks ago, White said.

"Aunt" Lugene, a mother of nine children, is survived by her first child, 87-year-old Arthur Roberts, who was old enough by the end of the Civil war to join a group of liberated slaves for a journey to Texas.

Ex-Slave, 98, Recalls Serving General Lee

Pittsburgh Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
22 Slavery
Sat. 9-27-47

By Special Correspondent

RICHMOND, Va.—Aging Nannie Rone, born in slavery, recollects right well how General Lee, defender of the Southern way of life, used to eat his suppers at her "white people's" table.

That was back in 1862, when Mrs. Rone, who calls herself "Aunt Nannie" was a slip of a girl of 13 years-old. Her mother did the cooking for a Hanover County, Va., family and Mrs. Rone waited on the tables.

...ave been free long
...ne said, 'Now that the
...have gone you can 'set
...ork'."
...e doesn't recall that she
...ened when the Northern
...ved. After she had been
...s remained a servant, in
...ld until "my white peo-
...d even worked for the
...en.

...ctive woman, Mrs. Rone
...oes the work she used
...gets around.

CHILDREN

...t of her comparatively
...pearance is summed up
...sophy, "I tends to my
...l treat people right."
...ood humor, Mrs. Rone
...e had ten children, five
...re now living, but she
...her grandchildren nor
...and great-great grand-
...One of her relatives
...s. Rone probably had
...children "on last count."
...would guess the num-
...rs.

The Confederate Army was camped near by and "Marse Robert," as he was known in the South, as well as other Virginia leaders, Stonewall Jackson and Jefferson Davis, was a frequent mealtime guest at the home where Mrs. Rone was a slave.

A HEARTY EATER

"Yep, General Lee really liked to eat," Mrs. Rone recalls. "He ate just about anything."

The 98-year-old woman remembers having seen Gen. Lee eat a dinner of Irish potatoes and cabbage.

Mrs. Rone never got to talk to General Lee. In those days, she said, Negro servants never spoke to guests. She recalls that she was one of two maids who served at the meals.

The spry old woman, who still has many of her teeth, good hearing and fair eyesight, also remembers the day that General McClellan came to Gaines Mill with his Yankee forces. Sat. 9-27-47

"The Southern people were camped at the signpost," she said. A lot of my white folks soldiers were at their homes when the Yankees came. My folks came running across the fields with their shoes and coats in their hands."

DRIVEN OUT

Mrs. Rone has another tale to tell after the Northern Army had been temporarily driven out.

"That Jeff Davis," she said with some bitterness, "Came down to our slave cabins and ordered all us Negroes, even one who had just had a baby, to come out. All you

Tell It To Old Grandma

A STORY

Editor, The Advertiser: Mon. 2-10-47

I'd like to tell a story that seems to me to "point a moral and adorn a tale" on two controversial subjects now much in the press. The Advertiser

A young Southerner practicing medicine in Philadelphia was riding in a street car one day when an elderly Negro woman with arms full of packages came in. There were no seats and the young man rose at once, saying, "Here Mammy, take my seat." The old woman said, gratefully, "Lord, bless your sweet heart. I knows you is a Southerner cause there ain't no Yankee gwine git up to offer a po' nigger a seat!" Montgomery, Ala

So — that's the courtesy of our Southern men and the way we abuse the Negroes.

A DAUGHTER OF THE SOUTH.

Montgomery, Ala. Mon. 2-10-47

Harriet Tubman's Kin At Woman's Day Meet

Daily Worker

Mrs. Melvin Proctor, grand-niece of Harriet Tubman, will be the honored guest Monday night at the celebration of International Women's Day by the Brooklyn Chapter of the Congress of American Women. The affair will be held at 157 Montague St. Mar. 5-6-47 Brooklyn, N.Y.

Mrs. Lucy Berry Smith, 102, Born In Slavery, Dies Here

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky

Born in slavery in Henry County in 1844, Mrs. Lucy Berry Smith died at her home Friday, a week before her 103d birthday.

Mrs. Smith came to Louisville in 1865. She served as nurse for the Henry Weissinger family for 19 years. Before coming to Louisville she worked for the Edmund Berry household in Henry County and for S. F. J. Trabue in Frankfort. Sun. 3-2-47

"All my white folks have been good to me and have told me I'll never want for anything," she often said. Among her "white folks" were Mrs. "Colonel Tiffany and Mrs. Lillian Manger in New York, the Fehr Kremers, and the Thomas Smiths.

The aged Negro enjoyed telling stories of life on the Trabue farm in Franklin County during the Civil War. Several skirmishes between Yankees and Confederates took place on the farm, she recalled.

She lived with a daughter, Mrs. Sally Lewis at 2509 Magazine. The home is filled with antiques given to Mrs. Smith by her "white folks." Sun. 3-2-47

Mrs. Smith had 14 sons and four daughters. Other survivors are a son, Albert Smith, two daughters, Mrs. Laura French and Mrs. Belle Dougherty, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Services will be held at 2 p.m. tomorrow at Fifth Street Baptist Church. Burial will be in Eastern Cemetery.

Ex-Slave Believed 116 Dead in N. C.

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier 2?

WINSTON - SALEM, N. C. — (ANP)—Death took an ex-slave, who was believed to have been 116 years of age, here last Tuesday. The former slave was Mrs. Mattie Carrigar.

A native of Plymouth, N. C., Mrs. Carrigar said in an interview several years ago that she had held a position in the "big house" of the master. She came to Winston-Salem to live after receiving her freedom. At her death, she was connected with the Gospel Tabernacle Holiness Church. Sat. 4-19-47

Surviving are one daughter, eleven grandchildren, twenty-two great grandchildren, and twenty-four great-great-grandchildren.

John Boles Makes Pilgrimage to Chimborazo Hill

Drinks From Spring Used by His Mammy 85 Years Ago

Boles' Aged Negro 'Mammy' Remembers Richmond Spring

Richmond Times

By Edith Lindeman

Down in the town of Greenville, Texas, there lives the only woman in the world who can smack John Boles' face and get away with it. Furthermore, she can demand a Christmas present any time she wants it, and even if the month is March, June or October, John meekly will hand over a gift, or the monetary equivalent thereof.

Her name is Aunt Little McKnight, she's 103 years old, and she's been bossing John ever since he was a few hours old. She doesn't get many chances to make him stand around these days when he is so busy with either the screen, the musical comedy stage, or the annual trouping which he enjoys so much But, whenever he gets to Greenville—several times a year—his first visit is to Aunt Little. Her black, wizened little face lights up, she gives him a good-natured slap and pipes, "Chris'mus' gif', Chris'mus gif'!" as she has done ever since she was a small child on a Virginia plantation. And John Boles either hands her the package he has purchased, or stuffs her tiny hands with bills. Mon 2-10-47

Born Near Richmond

Aunt Little was born and brought up near Richmond. She doesn't remember just where she was born, but as a slave, she must have belonged to a family named McKnight, since that has been her last name all her life. As a young girl she became a house servant, and lived somewhere within the city. After the War Between the States, she went with her "white folks" to Texas, eventually became the mammy nurse in the Boles household. Not only did she raise John Boles but his own two daughters as well.

About all that Aunt Little can remember about Richmond is that she had "mighty fine people who lived somewhere near a church that was famous." They were right particular people, too, says Aunt Little. They wouldn't drink just any old plain water out of a well. They had to go every day to a spring down the road a piece, and get enough drinking water in bottles and jugs to last them through the day. Aunt Little remembers that during the war days, soldiers used to water their horses at the spring, and sometimes it was hard to get through the crowd to supply their household. It wasn't so bad when the Confederate soldiers were there, but later on the Yankees used the same spring and Aunt Little says the water never tasted just right after that. Just the same, the last time John Boles was in Greenville, Aunt Little said she'd surely like to see what that spring looks like today.

Chimborazo—Maybe

By a process of elimination—and a few dozen questions—John Boles, who is now appearing at the National Theater, decided that the spring at Chimborazo Hill is most likely to be the one of Aunt Little's memory.

Yesterday he made a little pilgrimage, and got the picture that Aunt Little wants. Sometime in April he'll be back in Texas, and part of Aunt Little's "Chris'mus gif'" will be a framed portrait of the only spot she remembers from her days in Richmond. Mon 2-10-47

Slavery Used To Be Man's Common Lot

RALPH T. JONES

Mere Chattels

The days of the power and the glory of ancient Rome are not, in the sense of the age of the race, far gone. Yet, in the Rome of the Caesars, there were far more slaves than there were free men. Not only those who were slaves by reason of birth to slave parents, but whenever a Roman general returned from victorious war he brought, as an important part of his loot, thousands of the captured enemy to be sold into slavery most base.

Few believed that slaves possessed souls. They were but flesh and blood chattels, valued only for the services they could perform. It was no crime, no more reprehensible an act, to kill a slave than to kill a horse or dog or other animal possession. The

If there is any truth in the theory that man's character is determined, even in part, by inheritance from the personalities and characters of his ancestors, it is little short of miraculous that man of today should be so strongly imbued with the determination to know personal freedom.

For, as time is measured in the history of a race, it is only a few short centuries since a period when the vast majority of mankind existed only as the chattel properties of the few stronger, more fortunate classes. That, from such a background, should emerge generations of mankind imbued with the conviction that the individual man was meant to be a free person, with individual dignity, responsible only to himself and to a society whose laws and rules he himself formed, argues that, from the very beginning of time, human life contained within itself the essence of freedom. An essence so innate that all the abuses and indignities of thousands of years could not wipe it out.

Nothing, to my mind, so strongly evidences mankind's divine inheritance, the kinship of his spirit to that universal spirit we call, under various names, God, as this unquenchable love of freedom, this persisting sense of individual import—for which men have,

gladiators who died, by thousands, to sate the sadistic lusts of the arena throngs, were most of them slaves.

And, not far from Rome, other masters, Turks and Arabs and Egyptians, held their slaves in worse subjection, even, than those of Rome.

As late as the eighteenth century, criminals and debtors were doomed to the rowing benches of the galleys, chained in place, driven to inhuman effort by the vicious whips which tore the flesh of their straining backs and, when the abused bodies could work no more, they were tossed overboard to die and other poor wretches from the never-failing supply chained in their place.

Even later, the Moors of Africa's Barbary coast sold into similar slavery the members of the crews of any vessel they captured.

Indentured Servants When the United States was born, when the Constitution was written, fewer than half the inhabitants of this country were free men. One-fourth were outright slaves, Negroes from Africa, and as many, or more, were indentured servants whose legal status was only technically different from that of the slave.

Only in rarest exception was the indentured servant able to work out his freedom an win his way to economic independence.

In the years within our own memories, even after chattel slavery had been wiped from existence, there persisted an enslavement little better, the economic enslavement of the millions who toiled, in mine and factory and field, for bare subsistence wages, who could never hope for a better place in life because the cost of food and bare shelter demanded all their toil and its pitiful monetary rewards.

Not all the slaves were Negroes. There was a time when 90 percent of the world's population were slaves.

Let us, then, marvel at the ability of man to conquer the inherited inferiorities that haunt him from the past and let us acknowledge that the spirit of freedom which inspires him to achieve liberty must be an inheritance from a Divine spirit; otherwise it would long ago have succumbed to the humiliations of the shackle and the lash.

Money Could Be Made

Reading a review of Walt Disney's "Song of the South" the inquiry arises, why are all the novels and plays relating to negro slavery written with the South as their scene? Negroes were slaves in Northern states. Mr. Lincoln's early proclamation declaring them free applied only to the states that had seceded, and so it fell out that General Ulysses S. Grant and his family were holders of slaves in Missouri after those of President Davis, in Mississippi, had been declared freedmen.

In the history of centuries in a nation's life, what do 50 years or 100 count in a reader's mind? Pre-supposing that atomic bombs shall not obliterate history, what distinction will a reader of it Anno Domini 2047 draw between the abolition of slavery in New York and New Jersey? This year, 1947, is 123 years from abolition of slavery in New York, 103 from its abolition in New Jersey and 83 from its abolition in South Carolina.

It is highly probable that some clever lady or gentleman out for the scads in literature will dig up the story of a counterpart to Uncle Remus in New York and perhaps one in Massachusetts. All the 13 colonies had negro slaves and all kept negroes in slavery, or so tried to keep them, as long as it paid.

As for the African slaves, they were much alike wherever they were found. Mark Twain became a naturalized and saturated Northerner, but his "Nigger Jim" in "Tom Sawyer" and "Huckleberry Finn" was not unlike the creations of Joel Chandler Harris and many another Southern writer.

Negro slavery in New England, other eastern and middle states, is a subject that has never had justice done it. The neglect of it has been in effect a suppression of an important part of American history and has caused some loss of income tax returns to the national treasury.

In the event that an enterprising genius and entrepreneur shall explore the subject and write novels and plays based upon it The News and Courier suggests that he (or she) by way of preparation read in Rollo Ogden's Life of Edwin L. Godkin the account of the conversation of Mr. Godkin and Charles Eliot Norton with William H. Seward when he was secretary of state.

Teaching About Slavery

To The News and Courier:

Confusoin seems to be the order of the day, but it seems incredible that Ambassador Bedell Smith could have been correctly quoted when he is reported as saying that he advised against the teaching of General Lee's life in Russia because "they would not understand General Lee's giving the best years of his life fighting for slavery", or words to that effect.

Any well-taught grammar school child knows that the Lees owned no slaves and were opposed to the institution of slavery, and that General Lee returned to Virginia to fight for state's rights under the constitution of the United States. That, and nothing else.

Many of "the best years of his life" were given to the putting of West Point on a high plane of efficiency, and of fighting so valiantly in the U. S. army that the federal government offered him the general command of the Northern armies (and four other Southerners after Lee—all of whom refused because they held the constitution in high regard and state's rights as their first ethical obligations). Southerners fought for the constitution—Northerners against it; see any honest history.

The Lees owned no slaves. General Ulysses S. Grant was a slave-owner up to the close of that war. Boston was allowing slave-trading ships in her harbor in 1866. Will Grant and Boston also be "deleted"?

As to Russia's sensitivity to the subject of slaves—considering the Siberian salt-mines—we must conclude that this is the father of all jokes!

DISGUSTED.

Charleston.

Woman Ex-Slave Dies Here At 106

Mary Harris, 106-year-old former slave, died at her home near Pike Road Sunday. Born in 1840 near Pike Road, Mary lived there all her life, even after the so-called Emancipation Proclamation.

Two sons, Henry, 82, and Louis Harris, 71, of Pike Road, survive and are Pike Road residents. Louis is employed with the city, and on Sunday preaches at the Mount Moriah Church, on the Upper Wetumpka Road.

Louis declared last night that his elder brother was born in slavery as well as his mother. At the time of his own birth, his mother, then 35, was plowing a two-mule team, he said.

They were owned by Maj. Marks at the old Pollard place, near Pike Road.

The father died 39 years ago, at 65 years. Mary was a member of the New Sardis Primitive Baptist Church, and funeral directors Ross-Clayton said last night funeral arrangements are incomplete.

FORMER SLAVE, 100, DIES

Special to The New York Times.

CINCINNATI, Aug. 16—Mrs. Harriet Clay, former slave, who was a friend of the late Booker T. Washington, died yesterday at her home here. She celebrated her 100th birthday in May. She and Mr. Washington were natives of Franklin County, Virginia.

A slave until 16 years old, Mrs. Clay moved to Cincinnati thirty years ago. She made her home here with her daughter, Mrs. William Hicks.

Former Slave Dies at 103

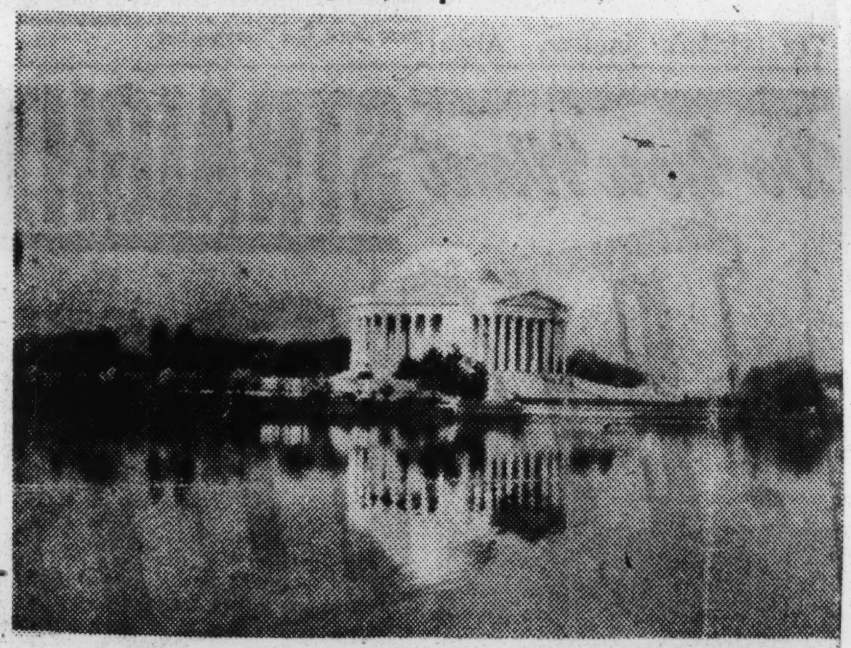
NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Funeral services for Mrs. Ellen Charlton 103, former slave who died Sunday night at Davidson County Hospital, were conducted Wednesday at the K. Gardner Funeral Home.

The Rev. J. P. Patton conducted services and burial was in Benevolent Cemetery 84. Mrs. Charlton lived in Nashville; forty-two years She is survived by six grandchildren.

JEFFERSON AFTER 204 YEARS

Had he lived, Thomas Jefferson would be 204 years old next Sunday (April 13, 1743—July 4, 1826). Yet, after two centuries, his ideas and ideals still live.

Few visitors to Washington fail to see the classic Jefferson Memorial (above), dedicated in April, 1943, to the man who was author of the Declaration of Independence, of the statute of Virginia for religious freedom, and father of the University of Virginia.



But while he is remembered for his "Jeffersonian Democracy," there are few who know that this man—twice President of his country—thought that social and sexual equality were okey. Some historians report that Jefferson had children by his slaves, and invited Benjamin Banneker, scientist-inventor, to his home.

While he had over 150 slaves at one time, Thomas Jefferson eventually championed the right of expatriation and gradual emancipation of all slaves. His anti-slavery opinions grew in strength with years.

Said one biographer:

". . . he realized the dire political dangers of slavery and foresaw the certainty that the slaves must some day, in some way, be freed; and could any feasible plan of emancipation and re-migration have been suggested, he would have regarded its cost as a mere bagatelle."

Possessed of unlimited faith in the honesty of people and in the elimination of ignorance through purposeful education, Jefferson, probably more than any other man, was responsible for laying the very foundations of American republicanism.

Slavery Still Exists In South Africa

The Florida Tattler
Sat. 6-21-47

New York—(CNS)—It has been reported here this week that the Farm Work Association of Pretoria, South Africa, will refuse "recruited labor" to any farmer found guilty of "assaulting or in any other way ill-treating any black laborer supplied by the association."

This announcement followed the police-court revelation of vile conditions in Bethal Tranvaal, a prosperous farming area where as many as 14,000 black workers are employed in the height of the season. The magistrate described certain conditions as "reminiscent of slavery." In one instance, Balthasar Johannes Brenkman, a white farm foreman, "who stood in the position of employer", whipped four black laborers, struck them with his fist, kicked them and set his dogs on them. Two were made to stop before being lashed, after which they were chained together. They spent the night naked and manacled. Sat. 6-21-47

22 1947

South Carolina

Name of Paper
22 Charleston, S.C.

Correcting Blunder Statements

While it is a matter of no great moment The Associated Press should know better than to say "no white man has been convicted in South Carolina of slaying a negro in nearly a century" and that "the last white man to die for an offense against a negro in South Carolina was a plantation owner sentenced in Newberry county by Judge Belton O'Neal in 1848 for killing two slaves". In Spartanburg county between 1876 and 1880 inclusive two white men were convicted of the murder of negroes and were hanged. In 1894 a white man was convicted in Spartanburg of the murder of a negro and was sentenced to death by Judge Thomas B. Fraser, but Governor Tillman pardoned the man and restored him to his office as a dispensary constable. Other white men have been convicted of manslaughter. The Associated Press would be discreet to steer clear of history.

Date 22-47

Bus Line Sued in Jim Crow Seating

P.M. Daily N.Y.C.
Tue-8-19-47

By Associated Press

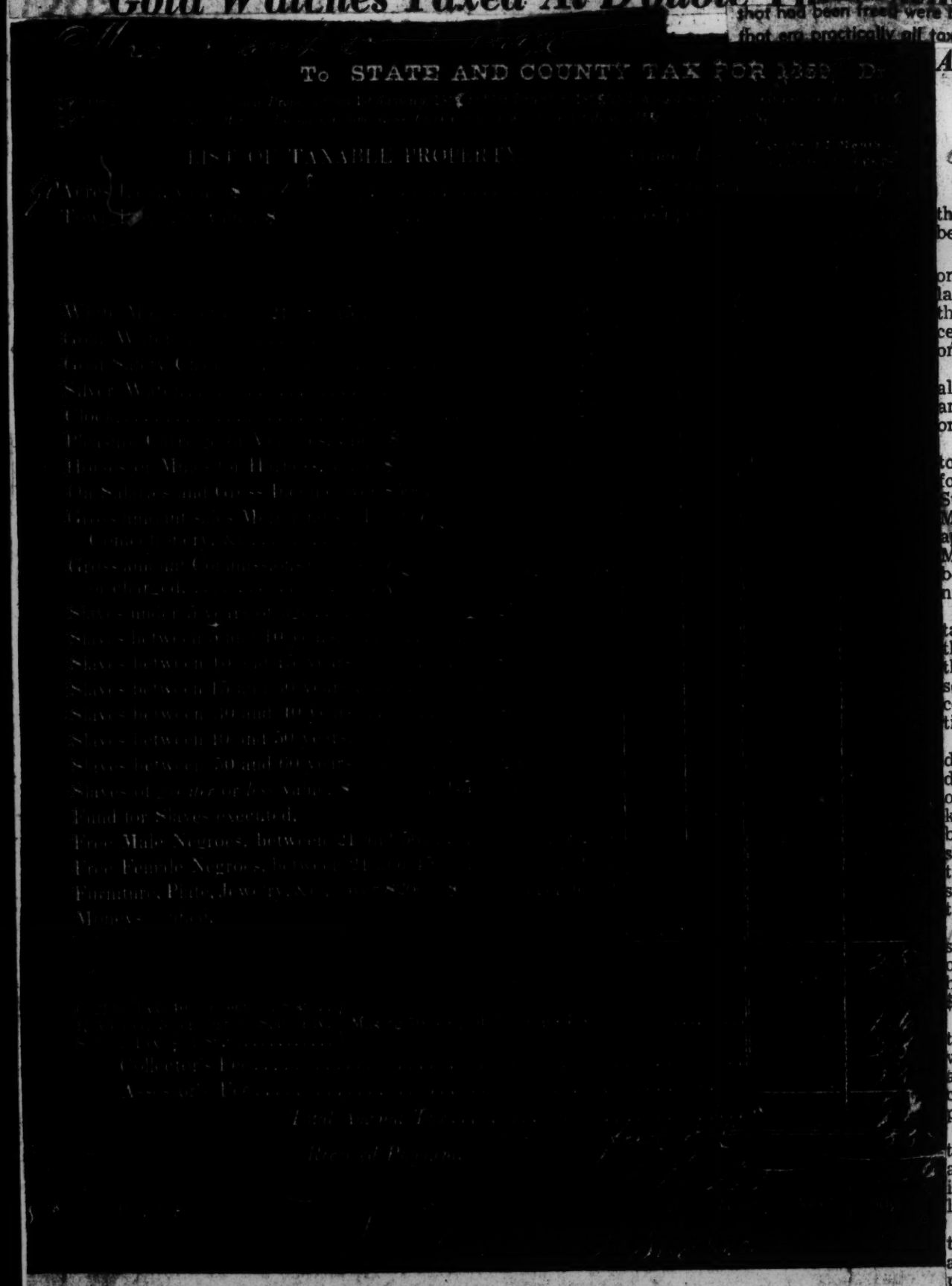
RICHMOND, Va.

A suit for $10,000 damages against the Atlantic Greyhound Corp. and Earl Blankenship, a Burkeville police officer, was filed by a Negro woman who alleges that she was forced from a bus when she refused to change her seat.

Miss Grace Burton Knox, declared in her complaint that she bought a ticket in Winston-Salem, N. C., for passage to Newark, N. J., and was ordered by the bus driver to take a seat in the rear of the bus when it stopped at Burkeville. The suit charges that Miss Knox was arrested by Blankenship without a warrant and adds that no charge subsequently was placed against her.

State Tax On 90 Acres Of Land Just Twenty-Five Cents!

Gold Watches Taxed At Double That Sum—Back In 1859



PITY THE POOR TAX-PAYERS OF A CENTURY AGO! The tax-payer listed above, for instance, had to pay 25 cents on his 90-acre tract of land and, if he happened to own a gold watch, he had to plunk out an additional half-dollar or—if a gold safety chain was included — six-bits. His county, road and school tax amounted to 16 cents and the tax assessor and collector extracted 25 cents each. Slaves were taxed according to age—$1.10 for those between 15 and 30, 20 cents for those between 50 and 60. Not even those that had been freed were tax-exempt for males, 21 to 50, were assessed at $2, females, 21 to 45, at $1. Old that era practically all taxes, state, county, road and school were included in a single form.

Assessor And Collector Added Their Fees—Two Bits Each

By G. C. LONG

Once upon a time in Alabama, there was what appears to have been an income tax in this State.

And back in those same days one person who had 90 acres of land valued it at only $125 and the State tax on it was only 25 cents, making the tax rate only one-fifth of one per cent.

Also, in those times practically all the taxes—State, county, road and school—were collected on one form.

That information was brought to light last week by an old tax form for 1859 dug up by Assistant State Land Agent L. M. Keller, Mobile, of the State Revenue Department, and turned over to Lee M. Rotharmel, chief of the tobacco tax division of the Revenue Department.

Oh yes, there was a fee attached to the payment of taxes then, too. The old form shows that the tax collector and the assessor each was to receive 25 cents for his part in the transaction.

And maybe politics in those days was somewhat akin to today because the form shows that one of the 25-cent fees was knocked off this form—maybe because either the collector or assessor was running for reelection, or because one person served in both capacities at that time.

As for the income tax, the form shows that a person had to pay one-half of one per cent tax on his salary and gross income over $500.

What may have been a sales tax is also indicated on the form where it is listed as "gross amount sales merchandise, fruit, confectionery, etc. . . . . 1-2 per ct."

However, Peter A. Brannon, of the State Department of Archives and History, explained it as being the method of figuring the license tax for an establishment.

In 1859 there was a 50-cent tax on white males between 21 and 45 years of age. Brannon explained that as being a "head" or "street" tax.

And listed immediately under the levy on "white males" is one on gold watches, that also for 50 cents per watch. Not quite so valuable was a silver watch or

gers involved in this shift. Th
that bureaucratic, authoritatarian
thinking persist in Germany. Th
that in rebuilding Germany an
her into the western camp, they
risk of reviving an unregenerate
ger rather than a reliable friend

sessment was one-half per cent of the value.

Listed on the 1859 form is the assessment on slaves, ranging from 25 cents per slave on those under five years of age to $1.10 for those between 15 and 30 years of age. When a slave passed 30 his tax value declined until it reached 20 cents per head for those between 50 and 60 years of age.

However, if a slave was classed as being worth more or less than the value established, his owner had to pay a tax of one-fifth of one per cent on the value.

Shown on the farm is the item "fund for slaves executed," which, Brannon said, did not mean a tax on slaves killed but on the execution of the sale of a slave.

Free Negroes were also taxed during that period, at the rate of $2 each for males and $1 each for females. Brannon said that tax was paid by the white person for whom the free Negroes worked.

According to the form the figuring of other taxes was easy after the State's had been calculated. The county received 40 per cent of the State's return, the road tax was five per cent and school tax 25 per cent.

Former Slave, 106, And Wife Get New Home

But It Takes Blaze To Force Pair From Their Loved Domicile

BY R. E. HOGAN
News Special Correspondent

TALLADEGA, Ala., Jan. 12—A 106-year-old Negro and his wife were living in their new house five miles from here today. But it took a fire to move them out of their old one, in which they had lived 40 years.

The couple, Jack Riddle and his wife, said "We just couldn't give up that house."

down the road with
said Riddle, "when
ome burned down,
ank everybody for
done.
y leaned on others
d trembled with
go and in his early
n the block for $50.
sold to the Pope
e was born in At-
terday, and this morning with few
clothes and with but little furni-
ture they are now in the new one.
Riddle, a former Georgia slave,
had paid for the old house with his
meager savings of years. It was the
only thing he had ever owned.
It wasn't an old house to him
and his wife, Josey. But his son de-
cided that it was and built a new
house for them nearby. But they
ignored his appeal for them to
move.

THE REV. JACK SMELLEY saw
the smoke and called the Fire De-
partment. W. C. (Cap) Holmes and
his volunteer crew rushed out, de-
spite the fact they are ordinarily
limited to fighting fires within the
city limits.

Riddle said he was
Talladega 106 years ago
teens was sold on the
He was later sold
family at Talladega.
the War
After the War
States, Riddle, his m
other children were
no place to go.
All Riddle and his wife Josey

RALPH T. JONES

The Constitution (20) Atlanta, Ga.

Delving Into Heroism Of an African Chief

Sun. 2-1-48

A few days ago, having occasion to consult some reference books on another matter, I came, by chance, upon the Amistad Case. Idly reading, it occurred to me that here was the bald outline of a story of a man who deserves an honored niche in the annals of his time, as a hero and a leader.

Furthermore, a prominent actor in the affair was a Georgian, John Forsyth, Secretary of State under President Van Buren. A man who had been minister to Spain, member of Congress and U. S. Senator from Georgia, Governor of Georgia, and had held other important posts.

The Story of Cinque It began in 1839. In 1820 the Spanish government had prohibited importation of slaves from Africa into its dominions. Nevertheless, the blackbirders kept up their trade under various rather obvious subterfuges. The Constitution Sun 2-1-48

In 1839 the slavers captured a largish group of Sierra Leone natives, including their chief, named Cinque. They were shipped to Havana, and there bought by two Cuban planters and shipped on a vessel named L'Amistad for Puerto Principe. Passport had been obtained from the Governor of Cuba by falsely claiming the Negroes were domestic slaves, born in Cuba. Atlanta, Ga.

Hero, or Pirate? Cinque, the chief, organized a revolt and, when four days at sea, led the Negroes in a revolt in which the captain and another of the crew were killed, two others were wounded. All whites were made prisoner but set ashore unharmed except for the two planters. Cinque made these understand they were to sail the ship for Africa. Atlanta, Ga.

But the two Cuban planters managed, due to the ignorance of the Negroes about navigation, to sail the ship near to Long Island, New York. A Lt. Gedney, of the Coast Survey, decided the L'Amistad was a "suspicious" vessel and went out in the brig Washington and seized her. The Constitution

One of the Cuban planters declared himself owner of the Negroes, accused them of piracy and demanded U. S. protection. Gedney took charge of the Negroes, claimed the vessel as a "prize rescued from pirates" and brought all to New London, Conn. The Negroes were jailed at New Haven, formally charged with murder on the high seas and set for trial at Hartford. Sunn. 2-1-48

Pirates or Cargo? But the Minister from Spain demanded that the U. S. authorities turn the Negroes over to the Cuban, stating they were slaves and his property.

It is unnecessary here to follow all the legal complications which ensued. Georgia's John Forsyth, then Secretary of State, came into the story when the U. S. Attorney for Connecticut asked if the Negroes should not be turned over to the Spanish authorities without any trial in this country. Backed by President Van Buren, Sec. Forsyth warned the District Attorney not to let the vessel, cargo or slaves get beyond control of the Federal Government.

Confusion was caused by the claim that, if the Negroes were slaves, they constituted the cargo of the ship and could hardly, as pirates, seize themselves. In other words, they couldn't be both pirates and cargo. The Constitution

Anyway, the result was that the Negroes were freed, on the argument they were kidnaped foreigners, and that such kidnaping was not only not protected by either U. S. or Spanish law, but was directly contrary to both. Atlanta, Ga.

The case set an important precedent in the laws on slavery. After their liberation, the Negroes were taken to Farmington, Conn., where they were well cared for, given the rudiments of education and, in a short while, sent back to Africa in the care of missionaries who later established a mission station in their district under the protection and sponsorship of Cinque, the chief.

You can only glimpse a little of the human story through the screen of legalities and cold analyses of the law. But the story of Cinque appealed to me as the story of a hero, a worthy leader of his people, be they savage blacks of darkest Africa or of the great nations of the earth. Sun 2-1-48

History Of Slavery In State Is Nearly Completed At Bama

The Advertiser (20) Montgomery, Ala. Wed 2-18-48

UNIVERSITY, ALA., Feb. 17. —An account of a Negro slave who could read Latin and Greek and had an understanding of theology and Bibical history is one of the interesting features of "The History of Slavery in Alabama," now nearly completed by Dr. James B. Sellers, history professor at the University of Alabama.

This slave, Harrison Ellis, was owned by J. T. Cresswell of Greene County who sold the Negro and his family for $2,500 in the middle 1840's. The slave's new owners sent him and his family to Liberia as missionaries.

Dr. Sellers related that Alabama's Negro slaves were more educated than was commonly believed, in spite of the law of 1832 forbidding masters to teach them to read, write and cipher.

One Negro slave cited as having special ability was Sam, employed at the University of Alabama by F. A. Barnard, professor of mathematics, chemistry and astronomy. Prof. Barnard used the slave as a laboratory helper.

The book points out that about 41 per cent of the state's free Negroes—some 2,790 in 1860—lived in Mobile where the city maintained schools for them as provided in the Louisiana Purchase Treaty. None of the free Negroes in Mobile was reported illiterate in the census of 1860.

Dr. Sellers is one of some 45 or more university faculty members having legislative research grants administered by the University Research Committee. Wed

100 YEARS OLD SHE REMEMBERS ALL

(20) The Union Cincinnati, Ohio Thurs. 2-26-48

New York—Surrounded by her family and friends, Mrs. Mary Gibson, born a slave in Culpepper county (that's always Virginia) celebrated her 100th birthday Saturday night Feb. 14 at her church, Amity Baptist, in Amityville on Long Island. At her side was a daughter, with whom she lives in Jamaica, Mrs. Cora Lane, lively at 77.

Mrs. Gibson has never seen a movie and hates jazz. "This new music don't make sense," she said. She remembers all of the Civil War. "She told of two Confederates stopping at her door for a drink of water. One of them took off his hat and bowed low, saying,

"Lincoln says you are a free woman now and I guess I'd better be respectful." The Union Thurs 2-26-48

OBSERVING HER BIRTHDAY ON THE EVE OF A NEW YEAR

The Times New York, N. Y. Thurs. 1-1-48

Mrs. Martha Hains Shepherd cutting her cake yesterday The New York Times

Age Of Former Slave Who Died Last Week Placed At 105 Years

The Advertiser (20) Montgomery, Ala. Thurs 2-26-48

Montgomery County has lost, probably, its oldest resident. Eliza Moore, Negro, died Wednesday at the home of Charlie Brown, Jr., on the old Gilchrist place near Mt. Meigs. She was 105 years old, it is reliably reported by G. C. Gilder, Jr., of Mt. Meigs, who said he recorded her age at 97 when he registered her for the U. S. Census of 1940.

Eliza was said to have been born a slave in Montgomery County in 1843. Prior to the end of the War Between the States she was the slave of a Dr. Taylor, according to D. E. Belser, of Mt. Meigs. The Advertiser

It is reported that she had been living on the Gilchrist place for about 65 or 70 years. She went there with her husband, Asbury Moore, who had also been a slave. Asbury Moore died in 1943, and, it is stated, he, too, was more than 100 years old at the time of his death. Montgomery, Ala.

Although it is believed by people who knew her that Eliza and Asbury Moore had two children, there are no known living relatives of the old couple. 1-22-48

BELOVED BY WHITES

Historical

Aged Former Slave, Dies

Atlanta Constitution

William Hill, Leader,

20 Atlanta, Georgia

By BILL BORING

Mr. William Hill is dead and his white-folk friends say don't forget to make it "Mister."

He was a remarkable person. He was born a slave, but, in the eyes of thousands of Atlantans who knew and loved him, he died in the highest nobility of man.

He will be buried by his white friends here. From among them will be selected his pallbearers. Funeral plans are being arranged and they will be announced later.

Here is his story:

He was born more than 100 years ago. Like children of many slaves, he was reared by white people. His "white folks," he said later, were good to him and provided him a good Christian rearing. Thur-10-7-48

WILL HILL'S PRAYER

When the War Between the States was over and the slaves were freed, Will Hill prayed to God for direction. He asked what now should he do.

"The good Lord told me," Will remarked to friends later, "that the white folks had taken good care of me and that from now on I should take care of the white folks."

So that's what William Hill did for the rest of his life. He did it by training and providing a good influence for white boys. Hundreds of Atlanta men—many of them in high positions in life—received their boyhood rearing under Will Hill's direction.

Hundreds of Atlanta men are alumni of Will Hill's clubs—the Zebredoes and the Therands—and today give him credit for having taught them in their youth the principles of right living.

LED BOYS' CLUBS

For more than 50 years Will Hill directed his boys' clubs. He would gather the youngsters about him in a circle, tell them stories, read to them from the Bible. He would play games with them, go on Summer camping trips.

Each Summer, members of his clubs would pitch tents at a camp provided for them on Sweetwater Creek by Mrs. R. W. Adams. It was a well-equipped camp, with all of the facilities for recreation and Will Hill and his white boys had loads of fun there.

Then there were the trips to the Chicago World Fair, to Miami, Jacksonville, Lake Rabun, Savannah and other places. Will had a truck and the boys would all pile in. They'd do their own cooking, bed down in the open for the night. Thur-10-7-48

HIS LIFE'S AIM

Will always lived on the place of white people—Sam Armistead, Dr. C. E. Hull, the Will and John Erskines. His whole aim in life was to do something for young white boys.

They say that whenever anyone would give him money he would find some underprivileged white boy and use the money to buy him shoes or clothing or a baseball glove or something.

But now Will is dead. The telephone at The Constitution rang all day. Prominent men in the life of the city were calling. If a better man ever lived, they say, they never ran across him. No matter what you say about Will, they say, you can't say enough good about him. Thur-10-7-48

Southern Women Who Pioneered

Those in the thick of today's battles can point with pride to the Grimke sisters

20 The Worker

By MARY SOUTHARD

WOMEN of the South who today are joining the fight against the Dixiecrats and the white supremacists have a proud heritage in the lives and work of two Southern women who gave battle to the slaveholders more than a century ago.

They were the two Grimke sisters, Angelina and Sarah, who grew up in slaveholding South Carolina, the heart of Secessia, and became known throughout the nation as two of the most ardent Abolitionist fighters against slavery.

The sisters spent their childhood and youth in Charleston, daughters of a wealthy slaveholder. They made their first protest against the corrupt luxury of slavocrat society by joining the Society of Friends. They bore the ridicule and censure of family and friends for several years in Charleston, then made the second break with traditional patterns for young Southern ladies by moving away from home to Philadelphia—a bold step for two young women in the 1830's.

For several years they devoted themselves fully to charitable and educational work as Quakers, and made their first contact with the growing anti-slavery movement.

Angelina wrote in her diary on May 12, 1835:

"Since I have examined anti-slavery principles, I find them so full of the power of truth, that I am confident that not many years will roll by before the horrible traffic in human beings will be destroyed in this land."

In the same year Angelina made public her private hatred of slavery by writing a letter to William Lloyd Garrison, editor of the Liberator, a letter which opened the way for the active participation of the Grimke sisters in the Abolitionist movement.

She said: ". . . It is my deep, solemn, deliberate conviction that this is a cause worth dying for. I say so from what I have seen, heard and known in a land of slavery where rests the darkness of Egypt and where is found the sin of Sodom. . . . The ground on which you stand is holy ground; never, never surrender it."

New York

A Crisis In Their Life

The publication of this letter marked a crisis in the life of the Grimke sisters. The Quakers, with whom they were associated in work and sympathy, strongly disapproved of the Abolitionist movement. It was a 'radical' cause, its leaders were being attacked from press and pulpit, its meetings broken up. It was unheard of in those days for women to take part in the discussion of public issues, and this was the most vehemently fought issue of the day. Further, the already weakened ties of the sisters with home and family would be cut entirely, if they chose to join the anti-slavery fight.

The first task which Angelina undertook for the American Anti-slave Society was a 36 page pamphlet—an Appeal to the Women of the South—of which Elizur Wright, Abolitionist leader said. "O, that it could be rained down into every parlor in the land!"

When copies of this appeal were sent to South Carolina, they were publicly burned by the postmasters. The mayor of Charleston threatened Angelina with arrest and imprisonment if she came to the city, and friends sent her warnings that there were threats of mob violence if she should attempt to return home to visit her family.

Founded Women's Anti-Slavery Society

The years 1836-39 were the most fruitful years of the Anti-slavery Society, which had headquarters in New York. Through its speakers and its thousands of pamphlets and papers it exposed the terrible evils of slavery to the whole nation. It planted the seed for future resistance to slave-power aggression, defended the right of the people to petition Congress, exposed the Seminole war and the Texas war as slave-holder conspiracies, and focussed nation attention on the expansionist drive of the slaveholders.

In this work the Grimke sisters undertook the pioneer task of founding a Female Anti-slavery Society, whose aim was to mobilize the conscience of the nation's women against slavery.

At first the sisters spoke only to groups of women in homes, but their fame grew beyond the bounds of households, and they boldly undertook their first public meeting in a church—a meeting, of course, only of women. About 300 women came, in spite of cries of "scandalous!" heard on all sides, and the Grimke sisters had the courage and the honor to address one of the first public assemblies of women in America.

This meeting broke historic ground. The fame of the sisters spread, and invitations flooded on them to come and speak to meetings (only of women) all over New York and New England. They undertook their first anti-slavery speaking tour in 1837.

6-20-48

Fought Abuse And Heckling

The sisters Grimke had another milestone to their credit when they engaged in a public debate in Amesbury, Mass., the two Southern women attacking slavery and two Massachusetts men defnding it.

Throughout these first months of their truly revolutionary speaking tour the sisters were forced to weather a brutal storm of ridicule and abuse, which was crowned by an Official Pastoral Letter of censure from the General Association of Massachusetts Congregationalist Ministers.

"They think to frighten us from the field of duty," wrote Sarah, "But they do not move us. It is really amusing to see how the clergy are arrayed against two women who are telling the story of the slave's wrongs."

In her appeal to northern women Angelina spoke bluntly: "Every citizen should feel an intense interest in the political concerns of the country. . . . Are we aliens because we are women? Are we bereft of citizenship because we are the mothers, wives and daughters of a mighty people? Have women no country —no interest staked on the public weal —no partnership in a nation's shame and guilt?"

Sarah continued the battle in a series of letters to the Spectator entitled "The Province of Women," and Angelina grew in the conviction that the fight for citizenship for women was inseparable from the fight for the freedom of the slaves.

"This (women's rights) is a part of the great doctrine of human rights," she said, "and can no more be separated from emancipation than the light from the heat of the sun. The right of the slave and of women blend like the colors of the rainbow."

Sun. 6-20-

Target of Hoodlum Attacks

The courageous speaking tour of New England undertaken in the winter of 1838-39 by the Grimke sisters was topped by Angelina's historic speech before a committee of the Massachusetts Legislature in the state capitol. She was the first woman in history granted this privilege, and according to Wendell Phillips she made a "profound impression on a class not often found in our meetings."

A contemporary diarist wrote: "In February Angelina addressed the committee of our Legislature on the subject of slavery and the slave trade in the District of Columbia and in Florida, and the interstate slave trade, during three sittings of two hours each. More than 500 people could not get seats but stood quietly during two full hours in profound silence."

Angelina, who had earned her reputation as one of the most talented of the great Abolitionist speakers, made her last public speech in Pennsylvania Hall in Philadelphia on May 16, 1839. (She was forced to retire after this because of illness).

2 Sun. 6-20-48

This hall had just been opened and was dedicated to free speech and equal rights, built through the contributions of hundreds of people who had seen churches and meeting halls denied to the advocates of 'unpopular' causes.

On the night Angelina spoke, the hall had become the target of the anti-democratic battalions entrenched in police power, in pulpit and press, and there was a mob of hoodlums on hand to do the dirty work.

Over 3,000 people came to the meeting amid the tension of the gathering violence outside. When Angelina began to speak, rocks were thrown through the window. She held her own and held the courageous audience with her, saying,

"What if that mob should now burst in upon us, break up our meeting, commit violence upon our persons—would this be anything in comparison with what slaves endure?".

The meeting proceeded—but the next night, while the mayor sat at home in acquiescence, Pennsylvania Hall, less than a week old, was burned to the ground by a mob.

The Worker

After 1839 the sisters continued their emancipation work mainly through writing. They collaborated with Theodore Weld (Angelina's husband) in his anti-slavery book, which sold thousands of copies, "American Slavery As It Is—Testimony of a Thousand Witnesses." They worked on a petition for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia.

When the 'irrepressible conflict' burst into war in 1861, the sisters were ardent supporters of the Union. Sarah circulated an emancipation petition in 1862, and wrote:

"I pray that victory may not crown our arms until the Negro stands in his acknowledged manhood side by side in this conflict with the white man; until we have the nobility to say that this is a war for abolition, and that no concession on the part of the South shall save slavery from destruction."

In 1868 the brutality of slavery made

Sun. 6-20-48

she participated in a women's suffrage

Stuart Mill's "The Subjection of Women"

through the small Massachusetts town

where they lived, Hyde Park.

Angelina

had come North with the aid of friends. Th sisters, on Angelina's initiative, looked up the two young men, publicly acknowledged the relationship, invited them to make their home, and made every effort to help them in their careers.

Sarah Grimke died in 1873. Only two years before, a woman in her seventies, Angelina died six years later.

Off The Bench

Montgomery Advertiser
Mon. 7-5-48

'Mine Eyes Have Seen The Glory . . .'

By JUDGE WALTER B. JONES

NEWSPAPER accounts tell us that at the recent Republican Convention held in Philadelphia the favorite song of the Republicans was Julia Ward Howe's so-called "Battle Hymn of The Republic." The singing of this song so often and the grinding out of it on the organ so continuously during the Republican Convention indicates not only ignorance of American history, but also contempt for the people of the Southern States.

Mrs. Howe, who was an enthusiastic Abolitionist, wrote the poem in the Autumn of 1861. She and her husband rode out from Washington one day to witness a review of the Yankee troops. The Confederates jumped into action, routed the federal troops and sent them into disordered retreat back to Washington. Mrs. Howe, as she rode in her carriage, passed them. They were singing "John Brown's Body." Mrs. Howe's companion, hearing the song, asked Mrs. Howe: "Why do you not write some good words to that stirring tune?" She took the suggestion and the song she wrote (now improperly known as The Battle Hymn of Republic) was called, "Mine Eyes Have Seen The Glory." 7-5-48

JONES

"The glory" which Mrs. Howe's eyes saw was the abolition of slavery, but, if you study history carefully, you will note that the Northerners, including Mrs. Howe, Wendell Phillips, William Lloyd Garrison, and others, were careful that "the glory" not come until the slaves owned at the North had been successfully converted into cash by sales in the South. The first slave ship ever built in America was the "Desire," and it brought to Massachusetts in 1638 the first cargo of Negro slaves landed in America. New England and New York practically monopolized the slave trade, and enormous fortunes were builded in the North. The Yankee slavers could import an African Negro for about $100 and immediately sell him for $1,000. As late as 1840 there were slaves in 12 Northern States. The Northern conscience did not seem to be troubled about slavery as long as slaves were owned in the North. When slavery ceased to be profitable at the North the parsimonious Northern slave owners saved their souls, but, of course, at no expense to themselves.

JOHN BROWN, who inspired "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory," is one of the most contemptible characters in American history, though the New England Abolitionists, and many who despise the South, have tried to make him a great martyr. He is sometimes called "The hero of Ossawatomie," when the facts are that, immediately upon the firing of a few shots, John Brown ran away from the scene of the engagement and did not know its outcome until the next day. The plain facts of history, and they cannot be denied today, show that John Brown was a man who scorned to tell the truth, that he was a straight-out thief, that he was a fugitive from the law for years, and that he was a cold-blooded murderer.

There has never been a more cruel and dastardly event in all American history than the murders which took place on the night of May 24, 1856, in Kansas, when John Brown and a gang of border ruffians, in the dead of the night, took from their beds and homes three men and two young boys, and hacked them to death in a manner too horrible to describe. That same night they murdered William Sherman in cold-blood, and later murdered a Mr. Wilkinson, dragging him from his bed while his helpless wife pleaded for his life. One Kansas historian declares these deeds "an outrage of the darkest and foulest nature, by midnight assassins, who murdered and mangled them in the most awful manner." 7-5-48

History shows that John Brown was a colossal fraud and a craven at heart. He was an admirer of Nat Turner, a desperate Negro who perpetrated one of the most fearful massacres in the history of our country. We must not forget the raid that John Brown made on Harper's Ferry on Oct. 16, 1859, when innocent men were deliberately murdered and the United States Arsenal seized. Brown was convicted of treason and hanged Dec. 2, 1859.

When the death of this traitor, this cold-blooded murderer, this great fraud, was announced funeral bells were tolled and minute guns fired at the North. Churches held services of humiliation and prayer at the hour of his execution. Thoreau called Brown, "An angel of light." Ralph Waldo Emerson spoke of him as "That new saint, than whom none purer or more brave was ever led by love of men into conflict and death." He also said Brown "made the gallows glorious like the cross." Victor Hugo said that the execution of Brown was "a crime which will take its place among the calamities of history." Louisa Alcott spoke of Brown as "Saint John, the Just," and Henry W. Longfellow shed crocodile tears at his death.

In the light of the cold facts of the record, "The Battle Hymn of The Republic" is the quintessence of concentrated hypocrisy. A fore-knowledge of its lines would have been enough to cause the ancient Scribes and Pharisees to develop an inferiority complex. None of the "glory" that Mrs. Howe pictured ever came out of the war between the Union and the Confederacy, but masquerading in the guise of a humanitarian movement, the armies of the North, at the command of Abraham Lincoln, invaded and crushed the civilization of the South, confiscated its property, and beggared its people. The economic collapse which followed brought from the lips of a high-minded Northern visitor to South Carolina during the closing days of Reconstruction these words, "There is nothing left to steal." And that was "the glory" Julia Ward Howe's eyes saw!

SLAVES FOUGHT FOR SLAVERY

Advertiser

This country, some of whose wars were fought for the ideal of freedom and some of which were fought for the raw and brutal reasons of conquest, is disposed to believe that only free men can do battle with a high order of valor.

Montgomery, Ala

History incessantly contradicts this view, but we continue to believe that only free men can bear themselves with courage. There is even a tendency to believe that men have to have a worthy cause to inspire fidelity and fortitude. Wed. 9-8-48

All of this overlooks such neon contradictions as the supreme courage of the Nazi and Russian soldier in the battle line. They were the servants and subjects of tyrannies, but their valor in cannon's mouth was not surpassed in the war.

But surpassing all such examples and providing a striking irony was the conduct of Negro slaves during the Civil War. The Yankee host was coming to liberate them, they knew, but they remained steadfast in the service of their masters and had the same hatred of the Yankee as the white man. Negroes literally fought to preserve themselves in slavery. Montgomery Ala

The black slave's role in the war against his would-be deliverers was as touching as it was ironic. The historian Fleming in his "Civil War and Reconstruction in Alabama" relates:

Advertiser

The Third Alabama regiment of infantry, one of the best, left Alabama a thousand strong in rank and file and several hundred strong in Negro servants . . . Only the officers kept body servants after the first year or two. Those servants were always faithful, even unto death.

The old Confederate soldiers have pleasant recollections of the devotion of the faithful black who 'fought, bled and died' with him for four years in dreary camp and on bloody battlefield . . . Many a bullet was sent into the northern lines by the slaves secretly using the white soldiers' guns.

When capture was imminent, the Negro servant would take watches, papers and other valuables of the master, and, making his way through the enemy's lines, return to the old home with messages and directions from his master, then in prison . . . With pine torch at night he searched among the wounded and dead for his master.

Finding him wounded, he cared for him faithfully, bore him to hospital or friendly house, or carried him a long journey home. Finding him dead, the devoted slave performed the last duties and alone often buried his master, and then went sadly home to break the news.

Sometimes he managed to carry home his master's body, that it might lie among kindred in the family burying ground. If he could not do that, he carried to his mistress his master's sword, horse, trinkets and often his last message . . . The Negroes were more willing to serve as soldier than the whites were for them to serve . . .

The approximately 3,000 free Negroes in Alabama ardently served the Confederate cause, which was to preserve their brothers in bondage. They sought enlistment.

What are we to make of this fidelity and courage of the slave? Of his risking his life to remain a slave? Of the relentless Hun soldier fighting for a monster? Of the valorous Russian as much a serf as any of his ancestors?

Men have performed the ultimate acts of human courage to obtain or secure their liberties, but the zenith of human courage has been likewise attained by men trying to impose their religions on what to them were infidels. Wed. 9-8-48

Men will fight supremely for their liberty and in the cause of their religion, but they will fight likewise for unworthy causes. A partial but not a sovereign reason for this is a quest for security.

The ignorant and sheltered Negro had never known liberty, but he knew the security provided by his white master. He was willing to risk himself to perpetuate himself in bondage because order for his life and food for his belly came with the bondage. Nations of people surrender their liberties to police states in quest of security. Such nations, like the Negro slave, do not seek liberty because liberty also means insecurity.

PEGLER

"By the People, for the People" Just Oratory

Los Angeles Examiner

By Westbrook Pegler

(Copyright, 1949, King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

"FOUR SCORE and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new nation . . . dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."

". . . government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth."

WESTBROOK PEGLER

The new nation which the founding fathers brought forth was not dedicated to any such thing. Slavery was an established, legal institution. It wasn't even challenged. The founding fathers regarded the African slaves as distinctly inferior men and Lincoln had no excuse to say that they recognized them as equals. That was just **"campaign oratory."**

The practices of slavery, such as the sale of individuals without legal regard for family ties, and selective extra-marital breeding for the purpose of creating better and more valuable slaves, ridicule the contention that the founders of the new republic believed all men were created equal.

Los Angeles Calif.

THE LEADING Americans of the time thoroughly believed in the morality of slavery. They were mostly religious men, so it follows that they did not believe the slaves were even human beings with souls. The practices of slavery violated the moral teachings of Christianity, which was the prevailing religion, so we conclude that the founding fathers did not believe that the Negro was their equal even in the eyes of God.

Lincoln's proposition that the United States was intended to be a government **"of the people, by the people"** has been resisted sporadically by small voices, but the fallacy has grown.

★ ★ ★

IT IS NOW a controlling delusion and responsible for much confusion. The Constitution was a contract between the original states. Just as a group of workers may be naively imagined as banding together for certain common purposes, these states agreed to respect and support a general management to be elected by them. They debated long and in detail the powers proposed for the general management and they deliberately limited those powers and wrote into the agreement the proviso that all powers not delegated to the United States nor prohibited to the states were reserved to the states, **"or to the people."**

The importance and character of the respective states were asserted several times showing that the founding fathers did not have any intention that the national government should become the policeman, monitor and judge in the domestic affairs of the states.

THE CONCEPT of the "United States" as a single entity, a nation, is impressive in dealings with other nations. Other nations have learned that the national government speaks for all of the "united" states. But they, and we, at home, have seen that the collective, national institution often speaks unwisely. In recent years it has spoken calamitously and absolutely without constitutional authority from the respective states. Yalta and Teheran were two such instances and there were others as when Roosevelt ordered warships of the "United States" to fire on German warships engaged in a war with Great Britain, although Congress, which has the sole power to declare war, had not declared war.

★ ★ ★

HE KNEW he couldn't get Congress to declare war so he made war himself.

The sturdy integrity of the respective states is asserted where the Constitution says that treason shall consist in levying war against "them." If the founding fathers had been thinking of the union as the main and only thing, they would have written that treason should consist in levying war against "it."

A few years ago, in the first Roosevelt Administration, I thought it might be well for us to do away with the states and adopt an imitation of the French system of departments. The states were surrendering to the national government, selling their sovereignty and integrity for WPA boondoggles and, incidentally, the worst offenders were the Southern states where a few months ago the States' Rights Party began the campaign to recapture state sovereignty. Later I saw the beginning of the corruption in the centralized power of the "United States" in Washington, and reneged. Since then, the campaign to establish a small number of regional Tennessee Valley authorities to blanket the whole country has been another approach to the departmental plan of provinces or satrapies, all sapping, debilitating and, eventually, obliterating, the states.

★ ★ ★

ALTHOUGH the preamble says "we, the people of the United States," that does not mean the people of the big union. It means the people of the states which are thus united in that union. The people of Nebraska, for example, or South Carolina, which are states combined to provide for the "common" defense and so forth. There again, you feel that assertion of state sovereignty. The founding fathers didn't write **"to provide for the national defense."** They wrote **"common defense."**

It wasn't intended to be a government "of the people, by the people" at all. That was just some more campaign oratory from a master. The lines were so poetical and symmetrical that they seemed like Holy Writ.

Our worst trouble today is that practically all of us think "government of the people, by the people" is a good plan of government. Truman doesn't think so. Congress doesn't think so. But they pretend to think so and that is smart politics.

Mar 3-14-49

YOU HAVE to govern by authority. People can elect and delegate authority which can govern them, but Lincoln knew that **"government of the people, by the people"** was just rhetorical bosh.

The fact is that the people of the states decided to elect state governments to govern them and to "unite" those states in this big association for the common welfare. The very idea that the elected government of the "united" states should then become the boss, nurse, almsgiver and, finally, master, of the "people" would have blown up the convention.

And while we are at it, the proposition that no nation can endure half-slave and half-free is more of the same hallowed nonsense. A nation, half-slave, half-free given certain initial assets, might become the greatest nation in the world forever.

105-Year-Old Negro Dies

Birmingham News

Mayfield, Ky., Jan. 11 (AP)—Asberry "Uncle Berry" Blythe, 105-year-old Negro who moved from Calloway County to Graves County before the Civil War, died today. Survivors include nine great-great-grandchildren.

Former Slave, 110, Recalls Being Freed, Has 25 Children

Birmingham Ala. Age 110

WASHINGTON, March 4—(NANA)—Wear plenty of clothes and sleep with your bedroom windows closed if you want to live a long life. That's the advice offered by Alexander Willis, who believes he became 110 years old yesterday.

His memory is as long as his age. Born a slave on an Orange (Va.) plantation, Willis can recall his master, Edward Kennedy.

During the Civil War, Willis took to the woods with his owner. He thinks he was "about 10" at the time. "But when the war over," Willis mused, "the United States government sent a man to us. He stood way up on a wooden block, looking out over the crowd of slaves, and he told us we were all free men, just like our masters."

What did he do after that?

"Why, I went back to my master," he said. "But I only stayed until I could get another job."

Willis, who was married twice, said he had 25 children.

EX-SLAVE OF GEORGIA OBSERVES 117th BIRTHDAY

ATLANTA (ANP) — Willie Ward, born a slave to Georgia's former Gov. Joe Brown on Dec. 26, 1831, celebrated his 117th birthday here last week with the promise to keep going at least three more years.

Atlanta Daily World 2-1-49

Negroes' Emotionalism Attributed to Slavery

Courier Journal
Louisville Kentucky
Thur 3-31-49

Emotionalism of the American Negro is not a racial characteristic but one developed during the period of Negro slavery in this country, an American missionary to West Africa said here yesterday.

He is the Rev. I. N. Patterson, secretary of the Southern Baptist Mission in Nigeria and the Gold Coast, the two British colonies of West Africa. He is in this country for a few months to address Baptist Schools and churches.

African Negroes, generally speaking, are far more reserved and formalistic in both their ceremonies and their recreation than Negroes over here, Mr. Patterson said.

'Yearning for Peace.'

He thinks the beauty of American Negroes' music and the uninhibited pleasure they take in dancing and other recreation is derived from emotions stirred in them during slavery and passed on to their descendants.

"In their native spirituals, the Negroes expressed a yearning for the peace and understanding they didn't have while serving under some of their white masters. This emotion was restrained in them while they worked and then came out in beautiful, soul-felt song," said Mr. Patterson.

"And their dancing became riotous because they were so overjoyed with relief from long, hard hours of work," he continued.

The Negroes of Africa are a friendly and able people, he said, even though they haven't as much education as American Negroes. In Africa, they are being given an increasing amount of responsibility in government and are asking for even more. Relations between the races is good, he said, and segregation is never based on race, but only on differences of wealth.

Are Almost All Farmers.

The Negroes in West Africa are almost all farmers, but they are an extremely sociable lot, Mr. Patterson said, and so they live in town during the winter and engage in various kinds of handicraft.

Thur-3-31-49

Ibadan, where Mr. Patterson lives, is the largest Negro city in the world, with a total population of 500,000, including 400 whites.

Yesterday morning, Mr. Patterson spoke at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary from which he graduated in 1924. He has been a missionary in West Africa since graduation.

Former Slave, 110 Years Old Or More, Marks Birth Today

Washington Post
Washington Post - News - D.C.

20

Thur. 3-3-49

By Arthur Ellis—The Washington Post

ALEXANDER WILLIS

Was born a slave 110 years ago

Alexander Willis will celebrate his 110th birthday today, but he's not sure about it—he may be a few years older.

20

Willis was born a slave on the Orange, Va., plantation of Edward Kennedy, and it was Kennedy who decided how old Willis was. And Kennedy told Willis he was born in 1839.

Thur 3-3-49

But according to Willis' son, Armstead Willis, who lives with his dad at 1816 11th st. nw., masters frequently made their slaves younger so they could bring fancier prices. Young Willis, age 54, says that's what happened to his father.

The small, gray-haired centenarian who could pass easily for 70, doesn't care to argue. He thinks he was pretty lucky to make it this far and the only reason for it that he can think of is that he's "stuck pretty close to my Master—the Lord, since my religious conversion in 1880."

That's why he strolls down to the Vermont Avenue Baptist Church most every Sunday. "Man, that's my home," he says. On weekdays, after he feeds and clothes himself, he takes long walks around the neighborhood.

A lifetime of work on Virginia farms, both as a slave and freeman, ended for him at the age of 100, when he stopped hauling ice and coal around for his son Armstead.

He's had three wives and 25 children. His oldest child, Maria Willis, 79, of 2120 H st. nw., was 20 years older than her second stepmother whom Willis married in 1931 and who died in 1939.

Willis has been living here with his son since 1928. Out of sorts physically since last summer when he underwent an operation, he's serene and confident about the future. "The Almight's working for me," he says.

Lincoln Letter on Slavery Nets $1,700 at Auction

A letter which Abraham Lincoln, then president-elect, wrote Dec. 18, 1860, to Henry J. Raymond, editor of The New York Times, denying that he was "pledged to the ultimate extinction of slavery" was sold yesterday at the Parke-Bernet Galleries, 30 East Fifty-seventh Street, to Mary A. Benjamin for $1,700.

It was among the autograph letters, music manuscripts, first editions, Currier & Ives prints, etchings, paintings and drawings which were the property of the estate of the late Elizabeth Sage Hare, Mrs. Jerome Stronborough and others, which were put on sale yesterday. The first session yielded $12,601.

Tues 4-5-49

Charles Scribner's Sons bought for $700 a large paper copy of F. Levaillant's "Histoire Naturelle des Perroquets" with 145 full-page color plates and, for $500 a presentation copy of the first American edition of "Huckleberry Finn," a gift from Samuel L. Clemens to Dean Sage in 1885.

Former Slave Drunk Gets Suspended Fine

Fulton County Courier
Sun 4-9-49

ATLANTA, Ga.—One a days of Gov. Joseph E. Brown, one of Georgia's ante-bellum politicos, Willis Ward, who says he's 117-years old and was born on the present site of the Georgia State Capitol, drew a $12 suspended fine last week in Recorder's Court on a charge of being drunk.

Ex-Slave, 107, Wins Eviction Case in Jersey

New York Herald Tribune

Friends Will Help Him Pay $3,500 Arrears on Home He Purchased in 1874

New York, New York
Wed 4-20-49

By Judith Crist

FAIRVIEW, N. J., April 19.—Simon Douglass, a 107-year-old former slave, drowsed peacefully in a chair by a second-floor window of his home at 154 Broad Avenue today, his gnarled blacksmith's hands folded in his lap, his snow-white head nodding.

"Pop knows everything's going to be all right," his fifty-three-year-old daughter Mary explained.

Mr. Douglass roused himself. "Yes," he exclaimed, "glory be to God, everything's going to be all right."

Thanks to a Superior Court ruling issued this morning, Mr. Douglass will not be evicted from the house where he has lived for seventy-five years, provided that he pays some $3,500 in back taxes, interest and court costs.

Friends Come Forward

"Friends have come forward," Miss Douglass said. "They'll help us get the money together. All we have is what my brother Sam makes, about $20 or so a week. But Pop's too old to move anywhere." Mr. Douglass, his daughter recalled, had come to the New Jersey community after being liberated by and fighting with the Union Army during the Civil War. He bought the property with the barnlike two-story structure in 1874, at what is now the corner of Broad and Prospect Avenues, and set up his blacksmith shop on the first floor.

The family lived in four rooms on the second floor. The house has neither running water nor electricity. Kerosene lamps, coal stoves and a pump in the small back yard provide utilities.

In 1940 the Fairview tax collector sold the house at public auction to the Bergenview Land and Mortgage Company, asserting that taxes had not been paid for twenty years. Six months ago foreclosure proceedings were instituted. Mr. Douglass said he knew nothing of the threat to his home until the foreclosure action.

Judge Gives Ruling

Joseph Simon, president of the Bergenview company, explained that eviction was never an issue, that he had only wanted to make sure the property never becomes the site of a gas station since his company operates one across the street. He said he had previously offered Mr. Douglass the property in return for his paying "taxes, interests and costs" which his company had covered, amounting to about $3,500.

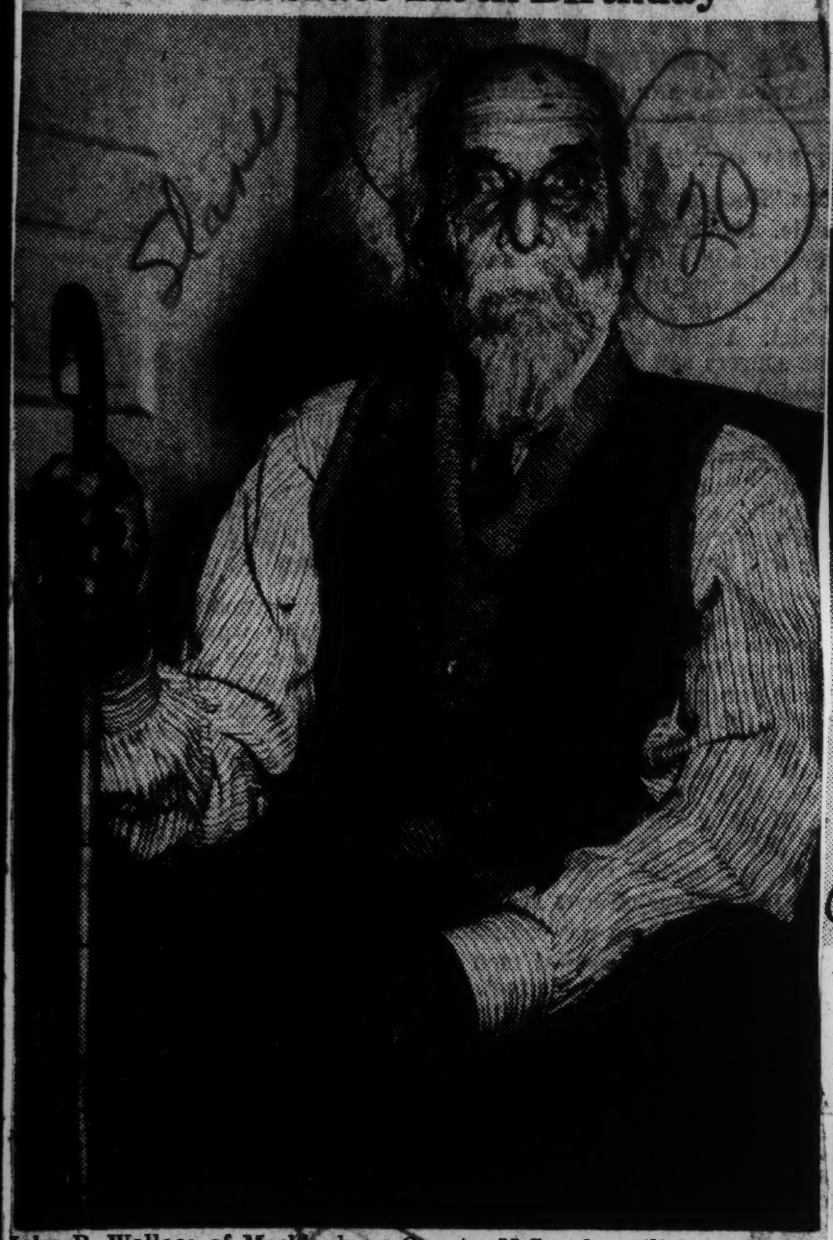
In ruling in favor of Mr. Douglass, Superior Court Judge John land Grimshaw jr. explained that "the sale of the land for taxes is such an extreme interference with private property that the law guards the rights of the owners with the utmost care."

Her father, Miss Douglass said, was strongly about his property ninety-seven. Business wasn't so good, of course. Pop outlived his trade." His sight, she said, is almost gone and his memory has faded in the last two years. "Spends his time between the chair, the table and his bed. He's got one tooth. But he hears real good."

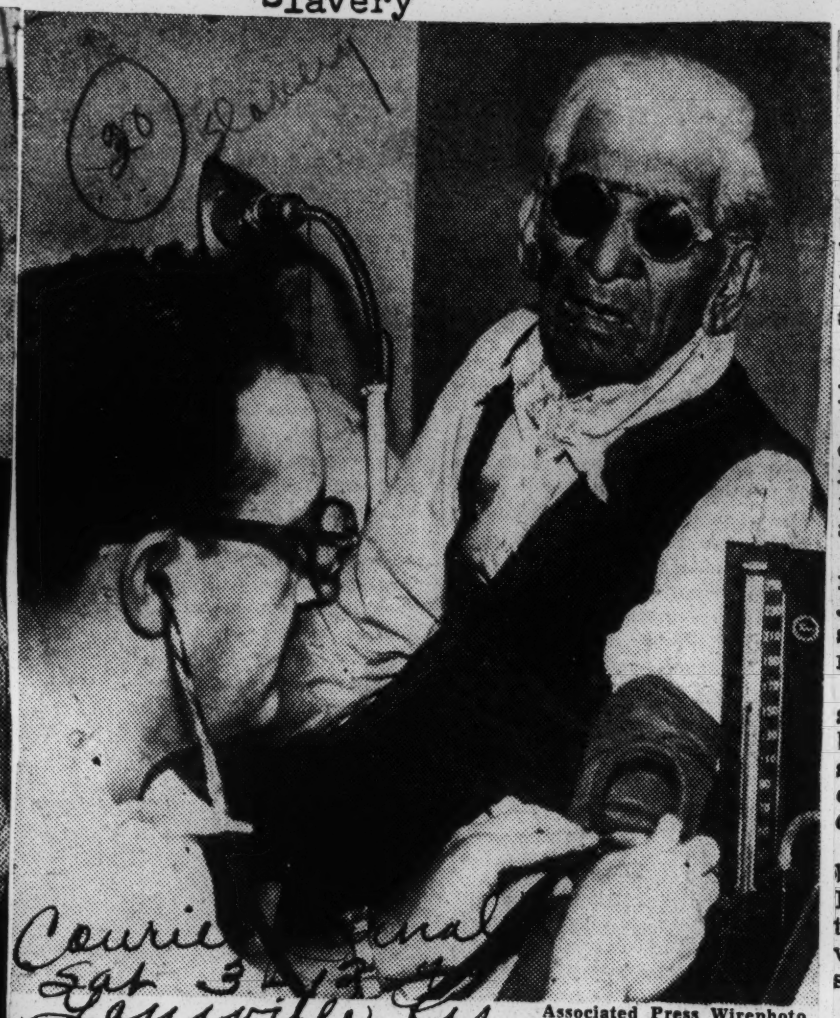
Mother Died at 101

Her mother died in 1939 at the age of 101. "In that year," Miss Douglass said, "Pop was losing his sight so bad he had to give up

To Celebrate 119th Birthday



John B. Wallace of Mecklenburg County, N.C., who will be 119 years old on March 15 will be honored with a party at the home of his foster son, Joe Gabriel, Smithville photographer, on March 19. Born in 1830, he has been married three times, the last time at the age of 98. He belonged to the Wilkes Wallace family before the Civil War. Mr. Wallace, who picked his last acre of cotton in 1935, when he also gave up his daily two-mile hike to Davidson, N.C., attributes his long life to eating good food and obeying his parents. He has never been seriously ill, does not believe in having doctors and was willing to call in a doctor only after he broke a rib in a fall recently. He was 90 years old when he adopted Joe Gabriel. Mrs. Elizabeth Gabriel stays at home and takes care of "Uncle John," as they call him.



Associated Press Wirephoto.

HE'S 128, PARDNER, he says, but like a true Texan Luis Enriquez has perfect blood pressure, as Dr. Max Bolafia finds out in San Antonio. Born in San Diego (Texas, suh), Enriquez spent most of his active life as a cowboy. He still has all but three of his teeth.

Georgia Town Honors 111-Year-Old Ex-Slave

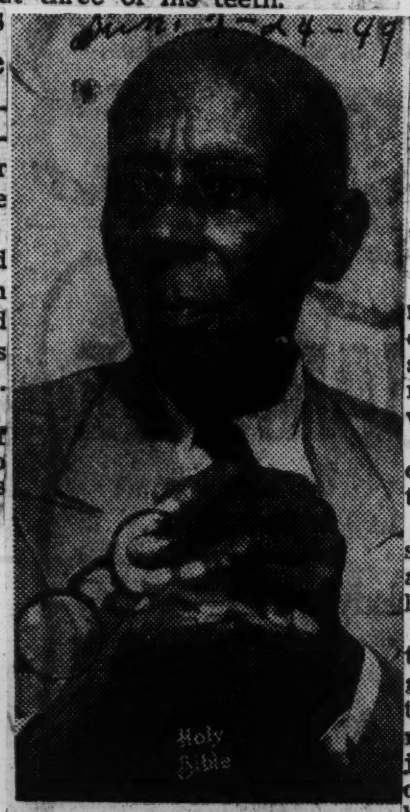
Cedartown, Ga., July 17 (AP)—"Aunt Nanny" Whatley, 111-year-old former slave, came to town for the first time in 12 years as the town's guest of honor.

Wearing a black dress and bright white apron, she was given a wheelbarrow full of gifts and a birthday cake with 111 candles at the local theater last night. Then she saw her first movie.

A. J. Whitehead, grandson of her former owner, attested to Aunt Nanny's age through records in the family Bible.

Advice Offered

107-Year-Old Ex-Slave Tells About Women



The Washington Post

JOHN WESLEY WASHINGTON . . . 107 years old

By John London
Post Reporter

In 107 years a man should learn something about women. And John Wesley Washington who turned 107 yesterday says he has learned something about them:

"You can't do without 'em—but Lawdy boy, don't you ever let 'em know it!"

This the incredibly vigirous centenarian advised in a dramatically hushed voice, accented by many guffaws and much hand slapping of his right thigh.

Peering puckishly over the horn rims of his low-perched glasses, John Wesley Washington, who has survived slavery, freedom and two marriages, added:

"Give your woman orders, reasonably; give her affection, often; but give her reason to believe she's got some advantage, never—or she'll play upon you like an organ."

As the venerable gentleman began to explain how "All of 'em look good at my age . . . ," a relative gently sidetracked the conversation in the direction of his slave-day reminiscences.

John readily took the cue. He talked of Marsah Jess Perkins' plantation, 10 miles up from Jackson, Miss.; the brawny overseer, "Yellow Lee," his thonged whip lashed to a wooden handle—and the good white folks like the marsah's daughter, dark-haired Jessie.

"She it was who taught me to read and write, with her fiingers on her lips, sayin' 'Momma might not care but daddy wouldn't like it.'"

The first words he learned, he said, where "God made you for his own glory."

Colonel Jess himself was a good man, old John recalled. "The colonel kept us fed and clothed, saw we had good shanties, and he never let the older folks be whipped, not old Colonel Jess."

But one day Union troops took over and passed the word around the slaves were free.

"I walked up and told the marsah I was free. He threatened to arrest me, but I walked away, and he just stood there, no believing."

John hauled cotton hidden in the swamp for a white man— and got paid. He sharecropped cotton, worked for 20 years as foreman for a contractor who built jails and courthouses. The son of a blacksmith, he could use his hands and understood people.

He also served as a policeman and real estate agent, accumulating friends, money and a philosophy: "Live up to your obligations and down to your means.

In 1936 he came up here from Jackson to live with his daughter. She died in 1946 at the age of 71.

105!—He was a full grown young man at work on a Louisiana farm when the Emancipation Proclamation was signed. Now Wade Evans is 105 years young, living with his children in Los Angeles, Calif. — Ruffin Photo.

AUNT NANNY'S BIG DAY Jun. 7-17-49

Cedartown Stages Grand Party For Former Slave, 111 Years Old

CEDARTOWN—A little woman put on a black dress and clean apron to make her first trip to town in 12 years. She lived on the old Whitehead place in Coldard Valley, about four miles away. She could not read nor write.

She was coming to see her first moving picture, her first radio microphone and her first flash bulb.

"Y'all quit doin' that to me," she said as Photographer Hugh Stovall snapped a picture. She also backed away a bit before speaking into the mike.

It was her 111th birthday Friday and the people of Cedartown were paying tribute to one of its "most honorable citizens"—"Aunt Nanny" Whatley, an ex-slave who has lived through the administrations of 26 of the 33 U. S. Presidents.

Born July 15, 1838, in Floyd, she moved to her present homeplace "just before de war" (War Between the States), and she's still living in the same house given to her in 1865 by her former master, O. B. Whatley.

After the novelty of flash bulbs and microphones, Aunt Nanny appeared calm as a veteran actor on the stage of a local theater as a group of leading businessmen presented her a birthday cake with 111 candles and brought in a wheelbarrow loaded with gifts from local merchants and friends.

Beside her was A. J. Whitehead, a grandson of Whatley, who was there to attest to Nanny's age through records in the family Bible. Jun. 7-17-49

Whitehead told the audience that his former nurse "lived as a faithful servant who had never been in court and has always paid all her debts." (She mortgaged part of her 40-acre property on the old plantation several years ago to help a son, but her home and an acre of land will be hers until her death.)

W. D. Trippe, President of the Commercial National Bank and master of ceremonies at the party, declared, "I have not known a more honorable citizen, and I'm sure that she has done all in her power toward the development of the town and county."

On the stage with her were Bill Bruner, President of the Cedartown Chamber of Commerce; Glenn York, city commissioner; Roland Gray, representing the Cedartown Kiwanis Club, and James Harpe, representing the Cedartown Exchange Club; Bill Estes, manager of the local radio station, and Fields Whatley, Editor of the Polk County Times.

Whatley, who is not related to "Aunt Nanny's white kinfolk," dreamed up the party when he found out she had never seen a "movie." Jun. 7-17-49

But after the party, two other former residents of the "ol' plantation," Mrs. M. M. Cornelius, Sr., and Mrs. A. J. Whitehead, came back stage to greet her. And Aunt Nanny replied to an invitation to see her first movie:

"I don't want to go. . . . I'd rather sit here and talk to my chullun."

Birthday For Horace

HORACE DUKE will have a birthday Aug. 11.

Horace thinks he will be 116 years old then. But he can't prove it. News

He was born in slavery near Eutaw, Ala., Aug. 11, 1833. His white folks were named Smith, and there is a Smith family in or near Birmingham that have a family Bible with Horace's birthdate in it. Pict. 7-23-49

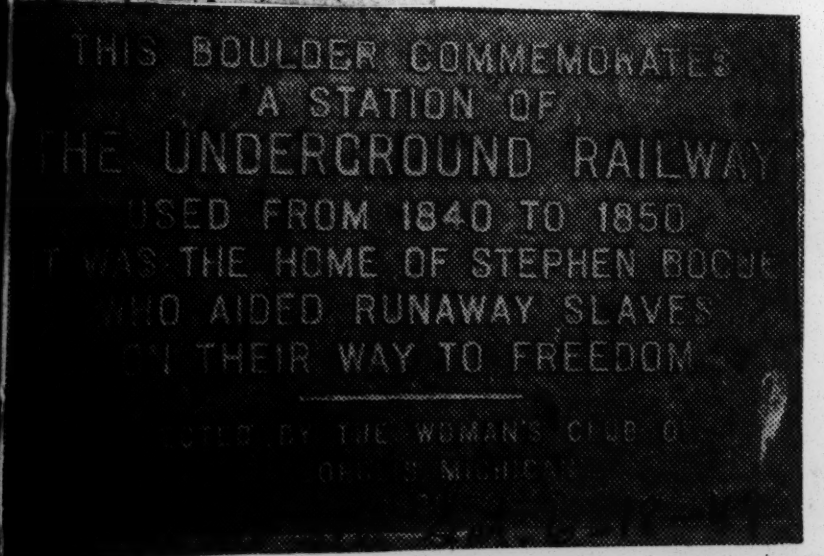
That's why Horace's daughter, Susie Mae Zuber, wants to get in touch with the white family named Smith that has the Bible with Horace's birthdate in it. News

If anybody can held establish the date Horace was born please call Vulcan at 3-1121.

Constitution Staff Photo—Hugh Stovall

SHE'S WASHED HIS BREECHES MANY A TIME—Aunt Nanny Whatley, Cedartown's 111-year-old ex-slave, talks about washing 71-year-old A. J. Whitehead's breeches many a time at a birthday party given by local merchants. Whitehead, a descendant of Aunt Nanny's former master, holds the first mike she's ever seen. Although her feet "gives me the miseries these days," her eyesight and hearing still are good.

SAME MARKER with old Bogue home in background.—Photos by Al Swierz, Cassopolis, Mich.


THIS BOULDER COMMEMORATES
A STATION OF
THE UNDERGROUND RAILWAY
USED FROM 1840 TO 1850
WAS THE HOME OF STEPHEN BOGUE
WHO AIDED RUNAWAY SLAVES
ON THEIR WAY TO FREEDOM

MARKER three miles east of Cassopolis on M60, erected in 1931 near the site of the Stephen Bogue home which was used as a station of the Underground.

She Defended History

By BEATRICE BROWN

"CAN you furnish entertainment for myself and a friend?" sounds like an unassuming bid for a night's lodging. A hundred years ago it was a password used by "conductors" on the Underground Railway Chicago, Ill.

Few people driving east from Cassopolis on M60 real-ize that the highway they traverse marks the roadbed of this famous railroad established to help runaway slaves escape from bondage. It was perhaps the first Freedom "train." For twenty years prior to the Civil War, it shipped its one-way cargo of humanity ever eastward to Canada and the protection of the British flag.

Unlike most railways, the Underground possessed no tracks or rolling stock. Its frieght of fugitives was escorted on foot or by wagon from one station to another. Hundreds of people throughout the North risked their lives and property to maintain the "railroad," giving generously of their time and money. Most of them were Quakers or Friends, who took the words of the Scriptures, "Let the oppressed go free" as a clear call to duty.

Two divisions of the road, the Quaker line from the Ohio river and the Illinois line from St. Louis, formed a junction in Cass county, where two stations were kept by Stephen Bogue and Zachariah Shugert, who also was a conductor.

Bogue, an ardent Quaker and abolitionist, received slaves at his farm, where they were fed and allowed to rest. Neighbors also helped provide food and hiding places for the fugitives. Upon receipt of a "cargo," the station agent immediately sought a conductor and made plans to send the travelers on their way. Supplied with fresh horses and covered wagons, regular conductors plied between stations, which were usually a day's journey apart.

From the Bogue farm, the next stop was the home of Dr. Nathan M. Thomas, at Schoolcraft. Pamela Thomas, his wife, recorded that the first slave to come to them was a woman in advanced years, who had made her way alone and on foot from Missouri, at first helped by her own people and then by Quakers. After hearing her story, Mrs. Thomas felt it her duty to aid all who came to her door seeking help on the road to freedom.

"At first," wrote Mrs. Thomas, "the slaves came singly or twos and threes, but soon conductor Shugert was bringing loads of 6 to 12." Often after her household was asleep, Mrs. Thomas would be awakened, and no matter how tired she was from the day's work, she would start in again to prepare food for a load of hungry visitors. While her husband was out making arrangements for forwarding them on to Battle Creek, she made beds for them in his office.

Mrs. Thomas estimated that from 1840-60, between 1,000 and 1,500 slaves had been accommodated at her home. However, not all fugitives went to Canada. Public sentiment was largely in sympathy with the runaways, and some of the bolder ones settled in Cass county in Penn and Calvin townships, where they enjoyed the help and protection of the Quakers.

This spelled trouble for their benefactors. Since most of the refugees were from Bourbon county, Kentucky, planters of this area formed an association in 1846, for the purpose of pursuing and returning their runaway servants.

Thus it was that a part of 13 Kentuckians rendezvoused at Bristol, Indiana, and crossed into Michigan. Breaking up into small parties, they invaded the settlements in Penn and Calvin during the night and seized a number of Negroes. But before the night was over, the Kentuckians found themselves surrounded by free Negroes and Abolitionists. Irate citizens joined the fray. A bloody riot was averted when the Kentuckians agreed to go to Cassopolis and submit their case to the justice.

Here the case took several interesting turns, but in the end was decided adversely to the southerners. The Negroes involved were immediately taken in charge by Shugert and sent on their way to Canada.

A year later, suits were started in Detroit by the Kentuckians against the Abolitionists, among them Shugert and Bogue. The jury, however, disagreed, and when the case was finally settled, it had cost each of the defendants a thousand dollars. This was only one instance in which Quakers in Cass county were heavily fined for resisting the law, and though the Friends suscribed generously to their relief, several lost their farms and moved to Oregon. Such was the price the Quakers paid for their belief that "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Pay Tribute To Ex-Slave

420

MEXICO, Mo.—Gov. Forrest Smith of Missouri dedicated the 60th Audrain County Northeast Missouri Fair to an ex-slave in a ceremony before thousands in this "capital of Little Dixie" Friday, Aug. 12.

Tom [illegible] to whom a memorial monument was dedicated as a highlight of the closing night of the fair's horse show, died in 1934. A trainer, he received international recognition for his years of saddle horse training.

"The story of Tom Bass is emblematic of this country of opportunity, where a Missouri county judge may become president; where this ex-slave we honor rose to international acclaim," the Missouri chief executive said.

Former Slave Succumbs Here

A former Negro slave who claimed to be 112 years old died of a heart attack yesterday.

The woman, Mary Davis, had been a resident of Atlanta all her life, although she preferred to call it Marthasville and never really acknowledged the change in name.

One of 900 slaves on the John Trasher plantation, she cooked for the family until the Emancipation Proclamation freed her on her twenty-fourth birthday. The Trasher plantation had once covered a several square-mile area including the present site of the Capitol building.

The Negro woman, who had been born in servitude and watched Atlanta grow from its pioneer days died at the Old People's Home on Camilla Street.

She will be buried tomorrow.

Lafayette Folk Mourn Aunt 'Dollie', Former Slave

LAFAYETTE, Ga., Oct. 20.—"Aunt Dollie" Marsh, one of the few remaining ex-slaves in northwest Georgia was buried Tuesday in Lafayette cemetery. She was more than 100 years of age and had lived here since she was freed from slavery.

"Aunt Dollie" was born on a plantation near Newnan, Ga., and lived there until the end of the War Between the States.

She could recall many interesting events of plantation life in the old South. She was a house servant and helped her mistress take care of the children and look after the home. She recalled that on Sunday she went to church with her white folks in the family carriage.

After she came to Lafayette she married Noah Marsh and they bought a home in West Lafayette about 75 years ago. Her two sons, Willis and Jesse, remained with her after her husband's death.

"Aunt Dollie" was a famous cook and helped nurse the children in most of the homes among the old generations of Lafayette. She was a charter member of the Methodist church near her home.

Woman, Age 112, Dies In Atlanta Wednesday

A woman reported as being 112 years of age, said a final goodbye to her beloved Atlanta at 11:45 a. m., Wednesday, when death closed her tired eyes and her frail body finally rested in eternal peace.

Continuing, almost to the last, to call our city "Marthasville," the name by which she first knew this now bustling metropolis of the South, Mrs. Thrasher Davis spent her last days in varied memories of her lifetime. Hers was a life which began with early recollections of playing on and around the site where the massive State Capitol now stands: recollections of seeing the some 900 slaves which she reportly claimed her former owner, "Old John Thrasher," as having, and of later days when she was employed as her former master's cook. It is said that Mrs. Davis was 24 at the onset of the Civil War, which resulted in the abolishment of slavery.

Mrs. Fannie Dix, operator of the Old People's Nursery-Home where Mrs. Davis spent her last seven years, said Wednesday that she remembered moving the fine old woman to the Home from a residence in the 300 block on Humphrey Street and that then, as prior to that time, the old woman lived with friends, whenever she could or with anyone who would accept her.

Inmates at the Home often heard the deceased tell of walking the six miles from "her Marthasville" to East Point where she would enjoy an evening of round dancing and then make the return trip home, also on foot. They would watch as she did her nightly sewing, amazed at her continued good eyesight ,for until four years ago she could thread needles without glasses. Interested in the way she looked, Mrs. Dix said "she was forever making her dresses longer or shorter to meet what she thought was the proper length for herself."

At the same time, Mrs. Dix noted it was in recent months that the aged woman would consent to being given medicine. She was an inveterate pipe smoker and a very pleasant person, one who never grumbled and never complained.

A widow, the deceased survived her husband by many years but never remarried. She was childless, but is reportedly survived by a niece, Della Thrasher, who lives "somewhere in the city."

The deceased often mentioned days spent at Spelman College, then Spelman Seminary, however, Spelman College officials were unable to locate evidence of her attendance there.

Ivey Brothers will be in charge of the service and interment pending completion of all arrangements. Mrs. Dix probably voiced the sentiments of numerous citizens when she said, "It will be a shame if this grand old Christian like woman can't have a real nice funeral. She has lived too long to miss that."

Underground Railroad Escapee Dies at 97

PHILADELPHIA—(ANP)—The Rev. Thomas W. Williams, 97, oldest member from the standpoints of service and age at Union Baptist Church here, died recently at the home of a niece. The Rev. Williams's life was full and colorful.

At the age of five, in 1860, his mother, father and an infant brother, James, left their native Green Castle, W. Va., and came to Chambersburg, Pa., through the underground railroad. Even though they were free, it was safer and more expedient to use the methods of slaves escaping bondage.

Aged Mother Of Black Dispatch Agent Passes

KILMICHAEL, Miss.—Mrs. Fannie Powell Henson, one of the state's oldest citizens born in slavery, died early Saturday morning at the home of her son, Prof. L. H. Henson, retired teacher of Montgomery county. Her youngest son, Principal S. V. Henson, of Elkhorn public school, has for over 25 years been agent, representative and feature writer of local news for the Black Dispatch in the Kilmichael area.

Mother Fannie was born Aug. 14, 1853, in Choctaw county, Miss., near French Camps, the daughter of the late William Harrison and Rachel Angeline Powell; joined the Elkhorn Primitive Baptist church when a teen-age girl and lived a devoted Christian therein until her death, being a continuous member for over 75 years.

She was united in marriage at the age of 25 to the late Elder Syrus B. Henson, pastor of Elkhorn, and to this union eight sons and three daughters were born. Three sons, Joe Ben Henson sr., of Tallulah, La., Luther Hearon, and Silvian Henson, of Kilmichael, and one daughter, Mrs. Cora Elizabeth Williams, of Kilmichael, survive her. Fifty-four grandchildren, 105 great-grandchildren, 40 step-grandchildren and a host of step-grandchildren also survive her.

Among those who came to attend the burial rites and view the last remains were the following grandchildren: Mrs. Lottie M. Guerden of Cache, Ill., Mrs. Drusilla Townsend of Chicago, Mrs. Tiny Mae Hughes of Detroit, Miss Gertrude Dorris of Benton Harbor, Mich., Mrs. Leonora Alexander of South Bend, Ind., Mrs. Oral Hughes of South Kinloch, Mo., Mr. DuBois Hune of East St. Louis, Ill., Mr. TeBell Henson, Mr. Joe Ben Henson jr., of St. Louis, Mrs. Cora Harris of Lucy, Tenn., Mr. Villa D. Hune, Little Rock, Ark.; Mrs. Inez Davis, Tallulah, La.; Mr. Gold Henson, Itta Bena, Miss.; Mr. Macon L. Dorris, Mr. Walter Dorris jr., Crape Creek, Miss.; Mrs. Eudora Small, Winona; Mrs. Annie Ruth Purnell, Mrs. Sallie Bell Flowers, Lodi, Miss.; Miss Fannie Mary Williams, Mrs. Lillie Pearl, Poplar Creek; Mrs. Ruth Mae Poe, French Camps; Mr. Hosea Henson, Mr. John Allen Henson, Sibleyton; Mrs. Grace C. Sanders, Mr. Calvin Williams, Mr. John L. Williams, Mrs. Ethel Mae Jackson, Sibleyton; Mr. Early G. Williams, Mr. Edd Williams, Miss Etell William, Winona. The folowing nieces: Mrs. Roberta Hill, Cleveland; Mrs. Malinda Woodley, St. Louis; Mrs. Mary Helen Jones, Crape Creek; Mrs. Laney Graham, Little Rock, Ark., and one nephew, Rev. H. M. Hogman, St. Louis, Mo.

Flowers and messages of condolences were received from Mr. and Mrs. Villa D. Hune, Little Rock, Ark.; Mrs. Ora Hughes, New Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist church, South Kinloch, Mo.; Mrs. Johnnie A. Winfrey and family, Mr. and Mrs. Dewitt Greenlee, Mrs. Leona Sanders and family, Rev. L. L. Milan, pastor and members of Adams Chapel A. M. E. church, of Cache, Ill.; Mrs. Mattie Mae Henson and children, St. Louis; Rev. and Mrs. H. R. Winters, McCool; Mrs. Lillie B. Gaines and Mr. Henry Hemphill and family.

The obituary was read by Mrs. Ruby Winfrey; prayer by Deacon J. J. Fair; solo, Miss Ida Mae Perkins; funeral oration by Elder A. L. Holman, pastor of Elkhorn Primitive Baptist church; undertakers in charge, Central Burial Association of Greenwood. Flower girls: Effie Mae Hemphill, Malena, Willie Ethel and Maggie Lou Winfrey, Josephine and Etta Mary Lee, Mary Earlean Riley and Flora Mae Irvin; mistress of ceremonies, Mrs. Esther Bennett.,

Mother Fannie was always an enthusiastic supporter of religious and educational programs tending to the advancement of her community. She greatly admired the Black Dispatch and Mr. Dunjee, its fighting editor. Her favorite reading material up to the time of her last illness was the Black Dispatch and her family Bible.

She died peaceably at the age of 96 years, 2 months and 8 days.

Ohioans Plan Memorial To Ex-Slave Who Saved Town Hall

GREENFIELD, O.—(ANP)—The FIRE STARTED

He said the man was in the room bravery and quick thinking of an when a large chandelier, bearing ex-slave in preventing extensive da- kerosene lamps, plunged to the floor mage or even destruction by fire of and started a fire. Braxton used his the almost new Town Hall a few coat to smother the flames. To com- years after it was completed in 1876 pensate for his ruined garment, a was remembered by local citizenry number of people took up a collecthere Saturday. Their remembrance tion to buy him a new suit.

took the form of a monument over Dunlap, in recounting the incident, the grave of the man—George Brax- The fo ton, who died in 1942 at the report- conceived the idea of erecting a mar- ed age of 115 years. ker for the ex-slave's grave. Some Virginia and rem

Braxton's deed ?? persons contributed from $1 t this life. was recalled by $5 for the

Walter H. Dunlap, member of one monument bearing the inscription:

of the town's pioneer families, dur- K "George Braxton, 1827-1942, age ing the recent Greenfield esqui-Cen- 115 years. Slave and Free Man. tennial. He told of Braxton attend- Christian Gentleman. Erected by ing a political rally in the Town Hall Citizens of Greensfield, 1949." a few years after its completion.

'Aunt Fanny' Dies at Home In Smyrna

"Aunt Fanny" Williams will be taken to her final resting place today.

The Negro woman, beloved by many Atlantans, died last Saturday in Smyrna. She will be buried from the church she loved and helped to build, the Wheat Street Baptist, which was founded by Dr. Peter James Bryant in 1920.

No one knew her age—but Aunt Fanny was a part of Atlanta's colorful history, old and new. She could personally describe Sherman's fateful march through Georgia and the grim days following the War Between the States.

Born in the early 1850's on the old Campbell plantation in Smyrna, she remained a faithful servant to the family until her death. It was her cabin on the Smyrna plantation which later became the picturesque "Aunt Fanny's Cabin" restaurant.

In 1894, when R. O. Campbell took his family to Tennessee and began coal mining operations Aunt Fanny went with them. A member of the Campbell family remembered it was Aunt Fannie's optimistic philosophies which often encouraged the Campbell's as they labored under the discouraging influence of labor disputes and rugged Tennessee mountain weather.

When she returned with the family years later, Aunt Fanny became enthusiastically interested in church and civic affairs. Working tirelessly, she personally raised more money for the Marietta Negro Hospital than any other individual.

It was Aunt Fanny who later broke the ground for the building's foundation.

Today a small chorus will sing her favorite hymns, "There Is A Fountain Filled With Blood" and "In the Sweet By and By." Rev. William Holm Borders will preach her memorial.

But the prayers of many will accompany her to her grave.

Town Pays Off 73-Year-Old Debt

★ Calls Holiday While State Senator Helps Dedicate ★ Monument To Ex-Slave Hero Who Saved Village Hall

GREENFIELD, Ohio—The citizenry of this small Ohio town paused Saturday to pay tribute to the memory of an ex-slave whose bravery and quick thinking are credited with saving the then almost new Town Hall from possible destruction by fire a few years after the building was completed in 1876.

A monument recently placed on the grave in Greenfield Cemetery of George Braxton was dedicated Saturday. Braxton, an ex-slave came here from Virginia shortly after the Civil War and passed the remainder of his life here. At his death in 1942, he was reputedly 115 years of age.

Braxton attended a political meeting in the Town Hall a few years after its completion and was still in the room when a large chandelier, bearing kerosene lamps, plunged to the floor and started a fire. He used his coat to smother the flames and the garment was ruined. To compensate him a number of citizens made up a subscription fund and purchased a new suit for him.

During the recent Greenfield Sesqui-Centennial, the long-forgotten incident was recalled. A member of a pioneer family got the idea of erecting a marker on the ex-slave's grave. Seventy-five persons contributed from $1 to $5 for the stone which bears the memorial:

"George Braxton, 1827-1942. Aged 115 Years. Slave and Free Man. Christian Gentleman. Erected by Citizens of Greenfield, 1949."

State Senator Albert Daniel gave the dedicatory address.

Ex-Slave Freed By Sherman Dies

ATLANTA, Ga.—A 112-year-old woman, believed to be one of the oldest persons in Georgia, died of a heart attack Wednesday at the Old People's Home.

The aged woman, Mrs. Mary Davis, was an ex-slave. She was freed from bondage during Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman's famous march to the sea.

Former Slave Who Saw Cursed Dixie Town Destroyed, Dies At 105

OLIVER, Ga.—Death of a former slave Friday drew the curtain on a desolate town once cursed by a hunchbacked itinerant minister.

Richard Bryant, 105-year-old former slave was the lone survivor of Jacksonboro, the town cursed in 1830 by Lorenzo Dow, the traveling white preacher.

It is said that Bryant was the only man alive who saw the once bustling town disappear, house by house, store by store, until but one house remained, the house specifically spared by Dow.

Saw Residents Flee

At the age of three. Bryant saw white residents flee in despair at the freaks of fire, water, and wind. They moved five miles away and found Sylvania.

Jacksonboro, half way between Augusta and Savannah, was founded in 1794, and flourished as a county seat, rough and tough.

In 1830 Dow drifted into Jacksonboro and called upon its citizens to repent. People laughed. They threw eggs in his face, and wouldn't let him preach.

Driven Out By Mob

The little minister, turning this way and that, was given sanctuary in the home of Seaborn Goodall.

When Dow tried to talk to his tormentors the following day, a mob drove him to a bridge over the creek and told him never to return.

Pausing on the span, Dow removed his shoes, and shook the dust of Jacksonboro from his feet.

He turned and swore that God would bring vengeance on all but the home of Goodall. The townsfolk laughed again.

Curse Fulfilled

But things began to happen. Fires broke out. Windstorms tore off roofs. The creek through the middle of town became wild and unruly, sweeping away homes in flash floods.

Those who remained finally gave up and moved to Sylvania. Time removed all traces of the town but the home of Goodall which still stands.

They say the night "Uncle" Richard died by the light of a flickering kerosene lamp, there was a rustling in the trees, and an o'[illegible] hound howled.

Former Slave Who Saw Cursed Dixie Town Destroyed, Dies At 105

OLIVER, Ga.—Death of a former slave Friday drew the curtain on a desolate town once cursed by a hunchbacked itinerant minister.

Richard Bryant, 105-year-old former slave was the lone survivor of Jacksonboro, the town cursed in 1830 by Lorenzo Dow, the traveling white preacher.

It is said that Bryant was the only man alive who saw the once bustling town disappear, house by house, store by store, until but one house remained, the house specifically spared by Dow.

Saw Residents Flee

At the age of three. Bryant saw white residents flee in despair at the freaks of fire, water, and wind. They moved five miles away and found Sylvania.

Jacksonboro, half way between Augusta and Savannah, was founded in 1794, and flourished as a county seat, rough and tough.

In 1830 Dow drifted into Jacksonboro and called upon its citizens to repent. People laughed. They threw eggs in his face, and wouldn't let him preach.

Driven Out By Mob

The little minister, turning this way and that, was given sanctuary in the home of Seaborn Goodall.

When Dow tried to talk to his tormentors the following day, a mob drove him to a bridge over the creek and told him never to return.

Pausing on the span, Dow removed his shoes, and shook the dust of Jacksonboro from his feet.

He turned and swore that God would bring vengeance on all but the home of Goodall. The townsfolk laughed again.

Curse Fulfilled

But things began to happen. Fires broke out. Windstorms tore off roofs. The creek through the middle of town became wild and unruly, sweeping away homes in flash floods.

Those who remained finally gave up and moved to Sylvania. Time removed all traces of the town but the home of Goodall which still stands.

They say the night "Uncle" Richard died by the light of a flickering kerosene lamp, there was a rustling in the trees, and an old hound howled.

Turnip Greens 'Good Eating' As Uncle Jack Reaches 108

BY R. E. (BUSTER) HOGAN
News Staff Writer

TALLADEGA, Ala., Nov. 15—Uncle Jack Riddle celebrated his 108th birthday today with a mess of turnip greens for dinner.

They had other things, too, including tomato chow-chow, yams, fried chicken, rice, gravy and cornbread. But Uncle Jack placed turnip greens first on the list.

He and his wife, Josey, have been married 71 years. She is 87. They live in a new house near their son. The son built the house two years ago, but Uncle Jack refused to move into it till his old home, a shack, caught fire and burned to the ground.

Uncle Jack was born in Atlanta and brought to Talladega as a boy and sold into slavery on the auction block for $50. The Riddle family finally took him and he adopted their name.

Today Uncle Jack is as healthy as is possible at his age. His eyesight is failing and he cannot read. But he would like to receive letters and have others read them to him.

His only other wish is for new batteries for his radio. He is unable to go to church and likes to hear preaching on the air.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY—Jack Riddle and wife, Josey.

Pay Tribute To Ex-Slave

MEXICO, Mo.—Gov. Forrest Smith of Missouri dedicated the 60th Audrain County Northeast Missouri Fair to an ex-slave in a ceremony before thousands in this "capital of Little Dixie," Friday, Aug. 12.

Tom Bass, to whom a memorial monument was dedicated as a highlight of the closing night of the fair's horse show, died in 1924. A trainer, he received international recognition for his years of saddle horse training.

"The story of Tom Bass is emblematic of this country of opportunity, where a Missouri county judge may become President, where this ex-slave was honor rose to international acclaim," the Missouri chief executive said.

Happy Haven Negro Saw Atlanta Burn

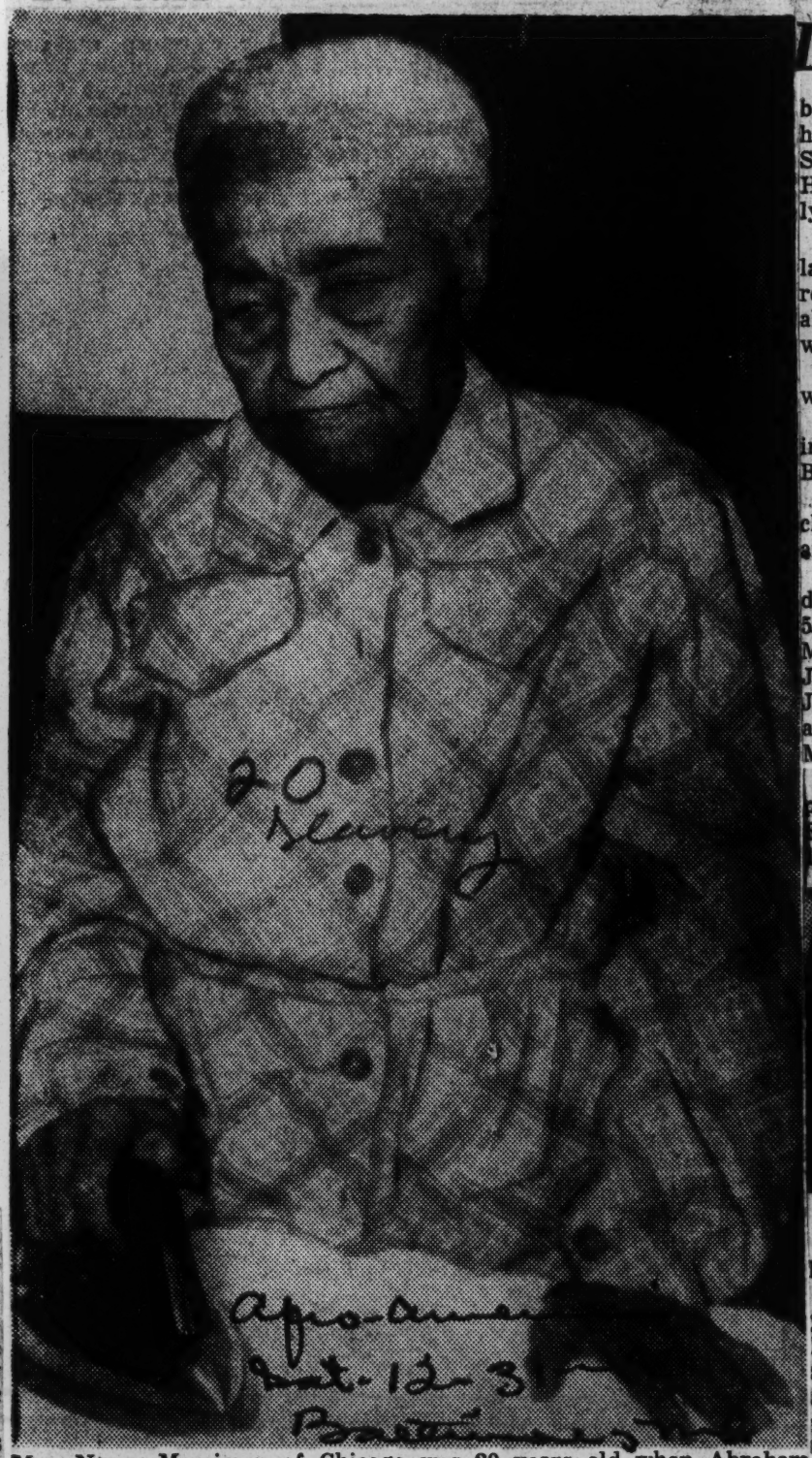
A Negro eyewitness of the burning of Atlanta during the War Between the States has only one thing to say about Gen. Sherman.

"He was a mean man," insists Uncle Willie Ward, Happy Haven resident who claims he is 118 years old.

"Uncle Willie" is vague about a lot of things. But he tells nurses and visitors alike at the Old People's Home here he was born Dec. 26, 1831.

The ex-slave, who gained his freedom in 1865, says he was in Atlanta "all during" the War Between the States. Ward traveled the ravaged Southland after the war, he said, but eventually returned to Atlanta and has lived here ever since.

20 Years Old When Lincoln Elected



Mrs. Nancy Merriman of Chicago was 20 years old when Abraham Lincoln became president. Still hale at 108 years of age, she had no secret formula to pass on to folks anxious to pass the century mark when photographed at the home of her grandson, whose shirt she was ironing, last week.

Woman, 102, Who Saw 4 Wars, Dies

SALLEY, S. C.—(ANP) Mrs. Lissie Ashe, 102-year-old former slave who lived through and remembered four wars, died here last week at the home of her niece, Maggie Childs. She was formerly a slave in the family of Mrs. Lubelle Tyler Salley and Carrie Tyler Salley.

Funeral services were conducted at Sardis Baptist Church and interment was in the Christian Cemetery.

Mrs. Peters, Former Slave, Dies at 100; Rites Thursday

Mrs. Peters was an enthusiastic baseball fan despite her age. She hadn't missed listening to a World Series in years, her daughter said. Her favorite team was the Brooklyn Dodgers.

Celebrating her birthday here last April, Mrs. Peters gave the reason for her longevity: "I was always just careful. And today—why, I don't feel a day over 50."

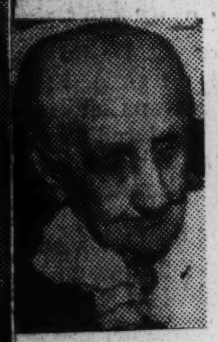
Her husband was James Peters, who died in 1923 at the age of 81.

Mrs. Peters was the oldest living member of the Mount Calvary Baptist Church in Manassas.

She leaves 6 children, 22 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren and 14 great-great-grandchildren.

Besides Mrs. Brooks, the children are Mrs. Nell B. McCoy of 502 24th st. ne.; Mrs. Sarah V. Moore of Manassas; Mrs. Frankie J. Strother of Haymarket, Va.; John H. Peters of Seminary, Va., and J. Montgomery Peters of Manassas.

Funeral services for Mrs. Josephine Peters, who died Monday at Freedmen's Hospital at the age of 100, will be held at 1 p. m. Thursday at the Shiloh Baptist Church, 9th and P sts. nw.

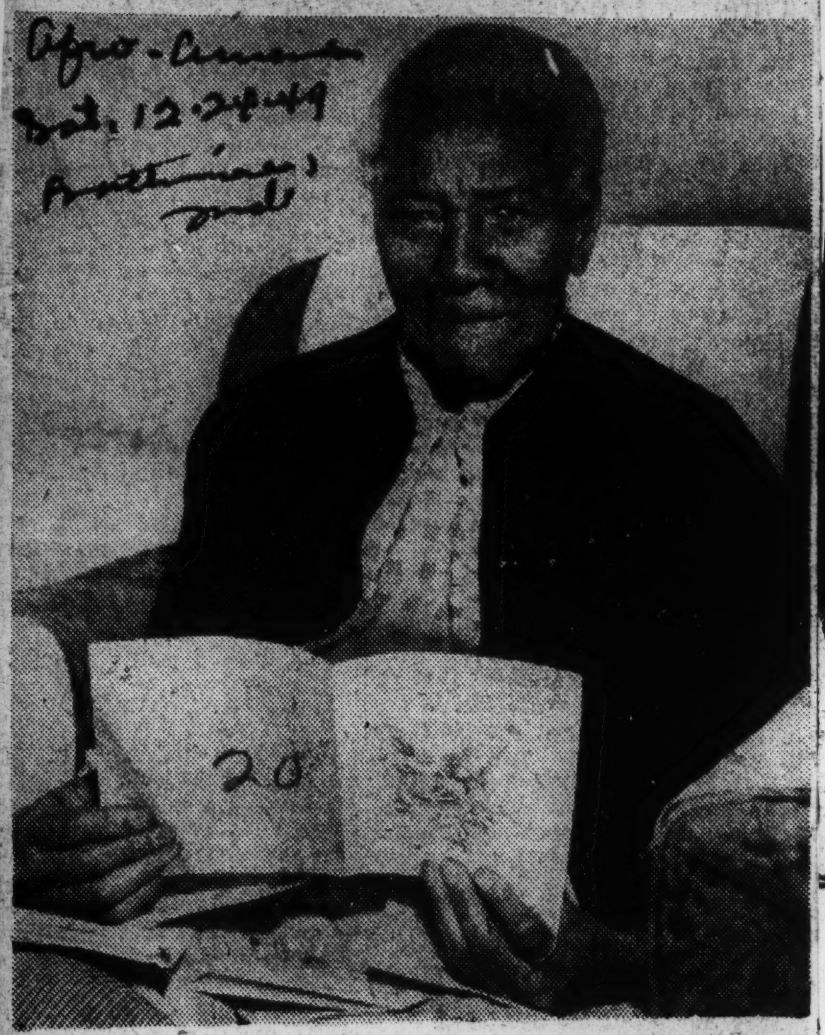


1949
Mrs. Peters

Born April 16, 1849, in Germantown, Pa., Mrs. Peters went to Manassas, Va., as a nursemaid at the age of 14. Civil War fighting reached her doorstep and her home was shelled.

Since losing her eyesight nine years ago, Mrs. Peters lived with her daughter, Mrs. Dovie Brooks, a funeral director, at 1200 Florida ave. nw. She broke her hip 11 weeks ago at the home and had been hospitalized since.

She's 103 Years Young



Mrs. Diana Gooden was kept quite busy Saturday reading congratulatory messages on her 103rd birthday. A native of Orangeburg, S.C., she has been in Philadelphia since 1923. In good health, she spends much of her time listening to radio soap operas. She lives with a granddaughter, Mrs. Grace A. R. Sawyer, at 1933 Wharton St. She has four children and 83 grandchilildren, including 12 great-great grandchildren.

FREED SLAVE

Old Ras Dies At Age 107; Toiled to End

Ras Harrison, the first Negro to buy a poll tax in Dallas County, died Wednesday at his home in Frazier Courts, a housing project, at the age of 107.

Death came suddenly for old Ras. He had been active until a few days ago. He picked cotton regularly last October.

He used to say: "I ain't studyin' about dying. The Lord God say if you be good he lengthen your life. An' I been good."

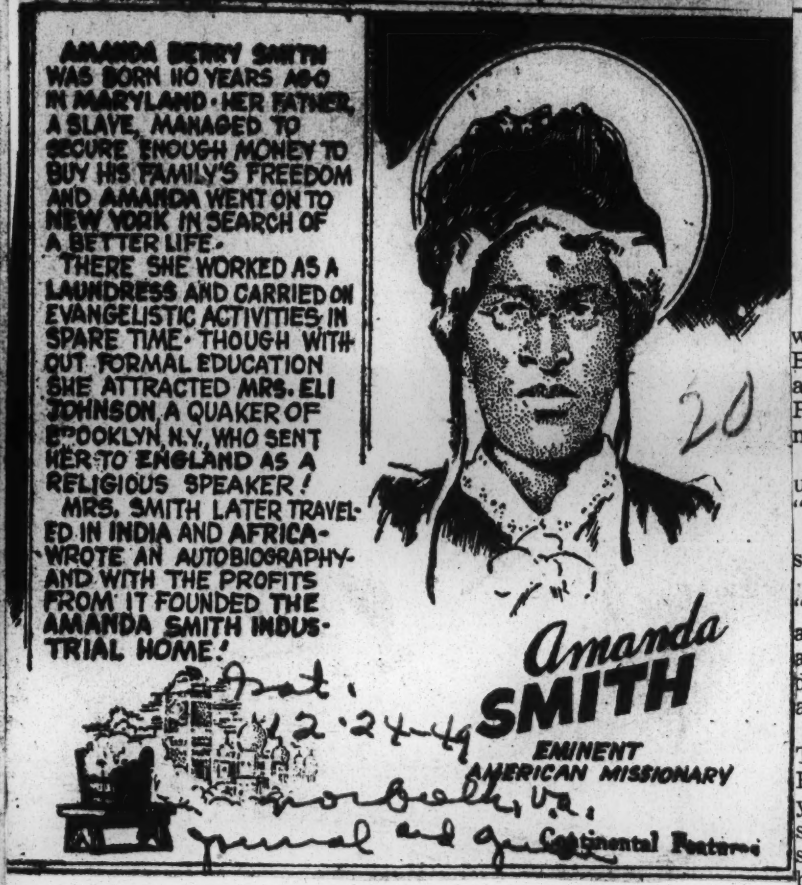
Harrison was born a slave in 1842 at Macon, Ga. He was a good field hand and he often told how a white man stole him one time. The man was hanged—"jes' lak if he'd a stole a hoss."

He drove a Confederate Army ammunition wagon during the Civil War, and he was wounded when his owners were attacked by Comanche Indians en route to Texas by wagon train.

He was living in Leon County when he was freed. He came to Dallas later and was employed by the George Akard Dairy. He said that in 1881 he became the first Negro in Dallas County to pay a poll tax.

Funeral arrangements had not been completed late Wednesday.

THEY'LL NEVER DIE By Elton Fax


AMANDA BERRY SMITH WAS BORN 110 YEARS AGO IN MARYLAND · HER FATHER, A SLAVE, MANAGED TO SECURE ENOUGH MONEY TO BUY HIS FAMILY'S FREEDOM AND AMANDA WENT ON TO NEW YORK IN SEARCH OF A BETTER LIFE.
THERE SHE WORKED AS A LAUNDRESS AND CARRIED ON EVANGELISTIC ACTIVITIES IN SPARE TIME · THOUGH WITHOUT FORMAL EDUCATION SHE ATTRACTED MRS. ELI JOHNSON, A QUAKER OF BROOKLYN, N.Y., WHO SENT HER TO ENGLAND AS A RELIGIOUS SPEAKER!
MRS. SMITH LATER TRAVELED IN INDIA AND AFRICA · WROTE AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY · AND WITH THE PROFITS FROM IT FOUNDED THE AMANDA SMITH INDUSTRIAL HOME!
Amanda SMITH
EMINENT AMERICAN MISSIONARY
© Continental Features

EX-SLAVE TO CELEBRATE

Oldest Paris Citizen Has 107th Birthday

Special to The News

PARIS, Texas, Dec. 24.—Sunday will have a double meaning for Bruce Russell, former Negro slave and the oldest living citizen in Paris—he'll celebrate both Christmas and his 107th birthday.

Many friends, white and black, usually call on "Cap'n Bull" or "Pappy" each Christmas.

His lifelong formula is quite simple.

"I never did eat much," he says. "When I used to cut wood, I drank a cup of coffee for breakfast, had a sandwich or a few crackers for dinner and for supper I didn't eat any more than the other folks."

Bruce was born Dec. 25, 1842, in Tennessee, the son of free Negroes. He was stolen when he was ten years old, brought to Bonham, and sold as a slave to Col. Jack Russell. He served as Colonel Russell's body servant during the Civil War.

"Colonel Jack done his best to educate me," Bruce recalls. "He tole me, 'Bruce, some day you'll be as free as I am. I want you to learn a trade so you can take care of yourself when that day comes,' but I wo' out de spellahs and didn't learn much."

Aside from smallpox and a few minor ailments, Bruce has never been ill. "Some of my chillun takes more medicine in a month than I has taken all my life," he says.

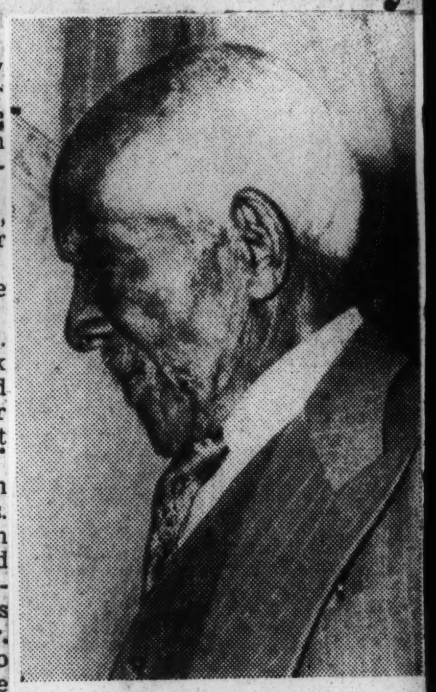
However, he has always used tobacco, with cigars a favorite. Bruce likes a little "nip" occasionally, especially on his birthday.

"I'm not goin' to lie. I likes a little drink—just one swallow—but it's a purty good swallow. And then I won't take no mo' even if you sets the bottle down 'side me." His daughter, with whom he makes his home, vouches for his statement. Moderation in everything is his rule.

His wife died in 1944, after they had been married almost seventy years. Of his eleven children, six are still living.

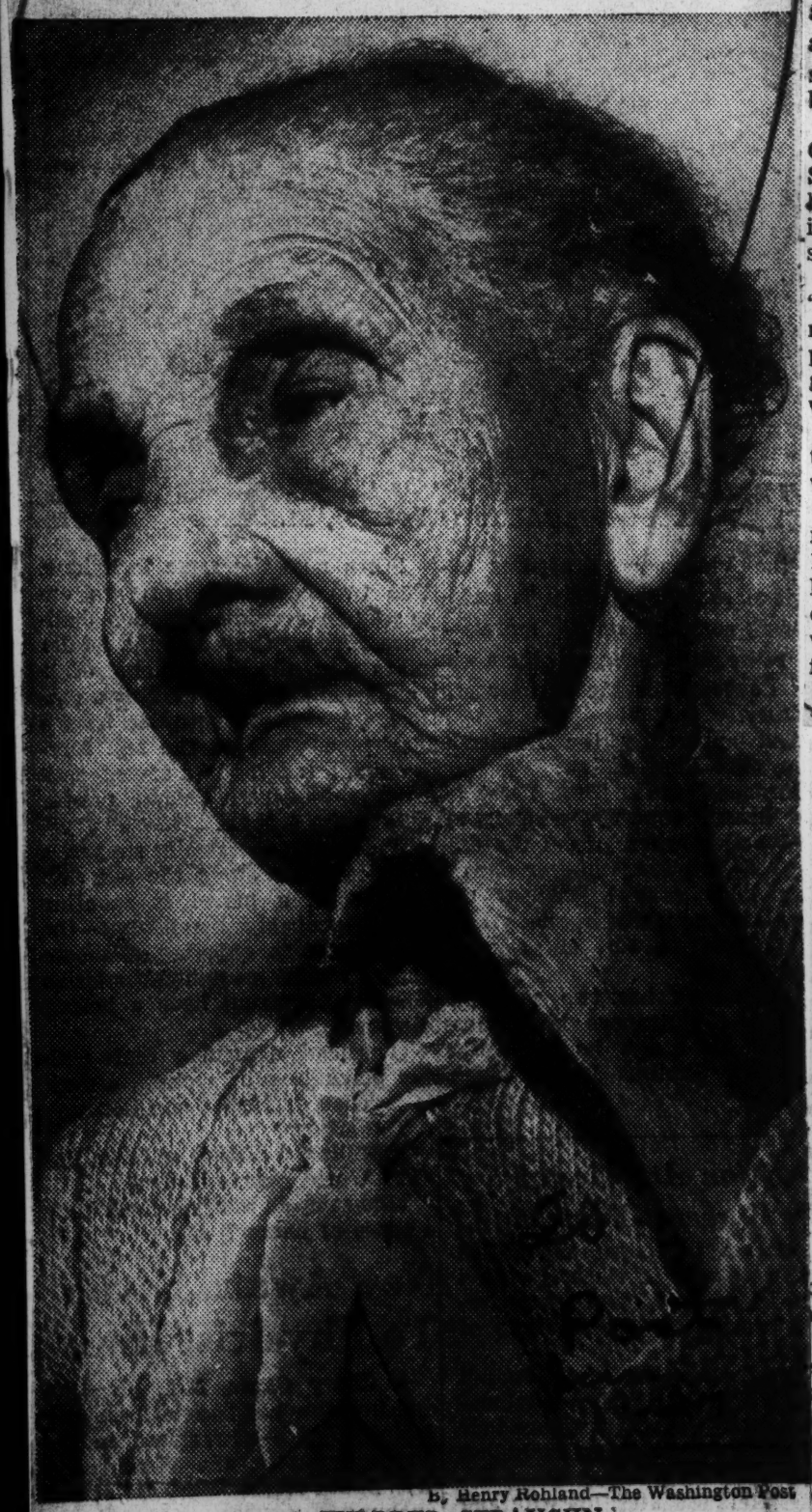
Bruces philosophy is wise. "I nevah bin arrested, nevah been in jail, he says. "I use mannuhs and politeness and gits along with everybody."

Asked for a comparison of long ago and today, Bruce replied, "Times is so dangerous. Look like folks do everyway but right."



BRUCE RUSSELL

Recalling Slave Days at 100, Woman Finds the World Good



By Henry Rohland—The Washington Post

MRS. WILDRED STRAUGHN
"I can't tell you how come I lived this long . . ."

Don't give Mrs. Mildred Straughn "how nice it was in the good old days" talk. She knows how it was.

Mrs. Straughn lives with her son at 730 6th st. se. For the 99 years and 364 days she's been alive, she says, the world has been getting better all the time.

She was born on a Richmond County, Va., farm 100 years ago Sunday. For her the good old days bring back memories of drudgery in the fields, a slave, with no schooling and no pay.

And they recall memories of "Yankees (some of them were real nasty) running around all over the place, takin' everything they could get their hands on, except they wouldn't do any murderin'."

Later, "the Yankees came back through there huntin' for the man who shot President Lincoln."

For Mrs. Straughn, the brave new world dawned when she was 15, and she was told she was no longer a slave. It was only the dawn, because she kept right on working in the fields without pay for another year.

Realizing, finally that someone would actually pay for her labors Mrs. Straughn hired out as a house servant for "$10 a month, food and lodging." The world took on a sudden glitter.

Married at 26, Mrs. Straughn settled in Piney Point, Md., with her husband, she as a hotel maid he as a farmhand "as long as we was able." They paid better in Piney Point.

When her husband died 10 years ago, Mrs. Straughn moved to Washington to live with her son, Thomas Straughn, a foreman with the E. P. Hinkel Carpet Cleaning Co. He and his brother, Arthur Straughn, 407 4th st. sw., are the only ones of Mrs. Straughn's six children still living.

Conservatively, Mrs. Straughn estimates she has 75 grandchildren, some of them great-great-grandchildren.

The one certainty in Mrs. Straughn's life is her own happiness.

"I can't tell you how come I lived this long," she says, "and I don't know how much longer I'm going to live, but I'm happy. I can eat anything most any time. I hope it stays that way and I don't know why it shouldn't."

Bury Woman, 107,

URBANCREST, Ohio — Mrs. Amanda Lewis Skeaton, whose relatives are positive she was 107 years old, was buried here recently.

Mrs. Skeaton could recall many incidents in this country's history dating back to slavery and Civil War days.

She Saw Her First Train in 1860

Woman, 118, Dead; Had Vivid Memory

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—A Maury County woman, reported to have been 118 years old, was buried last week in the Johnson's Chapel Cemetery near here.

She was Katherine Amos, known over much of the county as "Aunt Kate."

SHE DIED AT the home of her son, Pete Amos, 75, of Perry Hill, with whom she had lived since her infirmities forced her to leave her home near Johnson's Chapel.

"Aunt Kate" had been blind for the past sixteen years. She headed a family of five generations. Amos is the only survivor of four children. Other survivors include six grandchildren, eighteen great-grandchildren, and eight great-great grandchildren.

She had told a great-granddaughter, Janie Baxter of Columbia, that records from Alabama informed her of her age.

The great-granddaughter said that Aunt Kate remembered when the first train came through Columbia in 1860 and that she also gave vivid accounts of happenings in Maury County during the War Between the States.